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Indonesia's Sudharmono Addresses UNDP Meeting
BK1303081189 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0721 GMT 13 Mar 89

[Text] Jakarta, March 13 (OANA-ANTARA)—Vice President Sudharmono stated here Monday that the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has an important role to play as a catalyst to stimulate active participation of governments and the private sectors of recipient countries by rendering their assistance or cooperation in various activities.

Addressing the opening of the fourth meeting of UNDP aid coordinators in the Asia-Pacific region here, the vice president further stressed that equally important is the role of UNDP in the promotion of regional or multilateral cooperation, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region which has a long history of regionalism.

"Individually and collectively and in a high spirit of true collaboration, much has been accomplished by member countries in their pursuit of self reliance in development," he said.

In this connection, he went on, it would be a great help if UNDP could further stimulate and provide assistance which is required to enhance collaboration between developing countries in the technical as well as other fields.

The vice president also admitted that recent developments in the world economy have indicated gradual abatement of the crisis and recession.

However, he went on, countries in the region also realized that they have to continue to work hard in an effort to increase efficiency and productivity.

Sudharmono also noted that the increase in prosperity enjoyed by some countries in the Asia-Pacific region as a result of the upsurge in the world economy during the past few years was not shared by all developing countries.

On the contrary, he further said, in a large number of developing nations, increased national incomes did not keep pace with population growth, while many difficult problems and constraints were encountered in their efforts to improve economic life.

According to the vice president, protectionist tendencies of advanced nations definitely pose obstacles to the search for new export markets of developing countries.

He also noted that the continuing volatility of major currencies impose severe strains on debt servicing and developing nations are forced to take drastic austerity measures and postpone development projects.

"As economic growth rates dwindle, the creation of employment opportunities which is so compelling to absorb the rapid growth in the labor force, has been considerably reduced," he added.

The vice president also expressed his conviction that the meeting would discuss problems relating to human resources development and technology transfer as they are urgent problems for many developing nations in the Asia-Pacific region, including Indonesia.

He went on to say that since the formal sector of the economy is expected to absorb only a limited number of labor force, many job seekers will need assistance in order to enable them create jobs in the informal sector.

As the majority of the Indonesian people live in rural areas, he said, the country's development program is obviously rural oriented.

In this context, he went on, education and vocational training are paid a special attention in the human resources development program.

Vice President Sudharmono hoped that priority should be given to this particular question in UNDP programs for human resources development.

Furthermore, the term technology transfer should be interpreted in the broadest possible sense which can directly create opportunities and transfer human resources into industrious people, capable of developing themselves and thus help build up their society, he concluded.

Meanwhile, William H. Draper III, UNDP administrator, said that UNDP in the Asia-Pacific region is responsible for the implementation and management of 2,224 country and intercountry projects for which UNDP is providing U.S. \$982 million.

He further said that during the 1980's, developing countries of Asia and the Pacific region together maintained an average per capita growth rate considerably above that of the main industrialized nations.

According to him, improved socioeconomic development performance in the 24 countries of the region, which contain over half the world's population, extended beyond the so-called newly industrializing countries of East Asia.

Other excellent performances were achieved by China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and other countries of Southeast Asia, as well as India and Pakistan, he said.

The 3-day meeting is participated in by 23 UNDP resident representatives in the region and representatives of UN special agencies, and top officials of 30 countries.

Japan

Bush Wants 'Clarifications' for FSX Deal

OW2203001989 Tokyo KYODO in English 2353 GMT
21 Mar 89

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, March 21 KYODO—President George Bush said Tuesday the U.S. will proceed "with certain clarifications" to develop with Japan the FSX, a new Japanese fighter based on F-16 aircraft.

"I've made my decision to go forward with certain clarifications," Bush told reporters at the White House.

Bush's comment came a day after his top deputies assured Japanese Ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga in a State Department meeting of the U.S. plans to proceed with the project.

"President Bush wants to carry out the FSX project in accordance with a bilateral agreement concluded last year," a Japanese diplomatic source quoted Secretary of State James Baker as telling Matsunaga.

Baker also told the Japanese envoy that the Bush administration is closely examining the issue due to stiff opposition to the 1.2 billion dollar project from domestic critics, the source said.

Bush is said to favor getting "clarifications" from the Japanese Government about the FSX deal to safeguard vital U.S. technology.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters: "We're interested in their review of some of the suggestions we've [as received] and some of the options that we've laid out."

It is not certain whether or not the Japanese Government will agree to the fresh U.S. proposals on the deal which it negotiated with the previous administration under President Ronald Reagan.

Some Japanese lawmakers have started demanding that the project be scrapped so that Japan can launch its own fighter development program.

The current U.S. review focuses on the technology of "source codes" or computer software to fly the fighter and joint production of the FSX.

The U.S. and Japan have agreed to jointly develop the FSX but Japan hopes to proceed with independent production of the fighter.

The diplomatic source said the Japanese to [as received] Government anticipates "no change in the agreement or its framework" despite the interagency squabbles within the U.S. Government.

"The problem is not a matter of renegotiations," the source said.

Monday's talks between Matsunaga and Baker, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher, Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft reflected "the U.S. Government's unified view to go ahead with the project," the source said.

Baker, testifying before a House subcommittee, scoffed at suggestions that the U.S. is delaying its FSX decision due to a lack of trust in Japan.

"I don't think it's a question of trust at all," he told legislators. "It's a question of the President wanting to make certain that the agreement is in the best interests of the U.S."

A Japanese diplomat predicted that the Japanese Defense Agency and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries will sign an agreement on the FSX by March 31, as planned.

Mitsubishi is the main Japanese contractor in the deal and General Dynamics, the maker of F-16 warplanes, will receive 440 million dollars worth of subcontracting work out of the 1.2 billion dollar development program under the terms of the agreement.

Compliance With Agreement Urged

OW2203051989 Tokyo KYODO in English 0628 GMT
22 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—The head of Japan's Defense Agency urged the United States on Wednesday to abide by a bilateral agreement on the joint development and production of Japan's next-generation support fighter, the FSX.

The statement by Kichiro Tazawa, the agency's director general, followed an announcement by President George Bush on Tuesday that he wants to go ahead with the project "with certain clarifications."

Tazawa, in a post-Cabinet press conference, called on the United States to "respect the joint development (agreement)" entered into last year when the two sides exchanged "memorandums of understanding" (MOU) on the project.

He said the agreement "is not something that should be changed, and we want to ensure that it is not."

"The joint development project serves a vital confidence-building purpose for the Japan-U.S. relationship and we earnestly desire that it be carried out," Tazawa said.

The clarifications desired by the United States are seen as a reference to workshare in the project and safeguards on sensitive U.S. technology that would be revealed to Japanese engineers, especially computer "source codes," the software that controls a plane and its weapon systems.

U.S. congressional opponents of the project say the technology transfer would increase Japan's competitiveness in the aircraft industry to the detriment of the United States.

Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said the U.S. review of the FSX agreement should be carried out in a timely fashion, but avoided further comment, saying the issue is a "diplomatic question."

A top Foreign Ministry official, responding to White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater's remarks on Tuesday that Washington is waiting for Japan's "review" of options proposed by the United States, said "the ball is not in our court," but did not specify whether Japan has in fact received a set of U.S. proposals.

Another ministry source, however, said "a reaction of some sort will have to be forthcoming from Japan."

The source predicted that the Defense Agency and concerned ministries will come up with a response to the United States on such issues as U.S. requests for a guaranteed 40 percent workshare ratio.

Seiki Nishihiro, vice minister of defense, will visit the United States on Thursday for talks with American officials on the FSX project, government officials said.

MITI Asked To Work Out Asia-Pacific Forum Concept

OW2203135089 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT
22 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Wednesday asked the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) to work out details of a proposed Asian and Pacific Rim economic cooperation pact as soon as possible, MITI said.

The request was made at a meeting with Shigeo Muraoka, MITI's vice minister for international affairs, who just returned from a two-week tour of member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). MITI said Takeshita told Muraoka that the ministry should consult with the Australian Government on the matter as soon as possible, MITI added.

Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke earlier advocated a similar concept to establish a ministerial-level forum to discuss economic development and cooperation within the Asian and Pacific Rim region and sent a letter conveying the suggestion to Takeshita.

Takeshita instructed Muraoka to draft a proposal outlining the direction and approach for an Asian and Pacific region economic cooperation pact before Takeshita begins a tour of ASEAN countries in late April.

It has been suggested that the eventual recommendations include a call for regularly scheduled meetings of trade and industry ministers, they said.

Regarding the contents of talks between Muraoka and his ASEAN counterparts, Muraoka said all endorsed or showed a willingness to explore Japan's suggested regional economic cooperation concept.

Muraoka also said his counterparts shared the view that any eventual forum should be open to nations in the region, should not promote exclusive regionalism, and should be careful to avoid creating such fears of exclusiveness by non-Asian and Pacific Rim countries.

The top trade policymaker said ASEAN ministers he met supported including the United States in the planned forum, MITI said.

The envisaged forum would deal with such issues as trade expansion, enhancement of investment environment and coping with problems accompanying rapid economic growth, MITI said.

It would seek to strengthen a multilateral trade system under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs And trade, assuring the forum's outward-looking nature, MITI said.

MITI hopes that a first ministerial-level meeting will be held this summer following a preparatory meeting this spring.

The membership and what country will host the meeting are yet open to question, MITI said.

Muraoka and other senior MITI officials are scheduled to visit the United States and Canada, and South Korea and other Asian nations to exchange views about the Japanese proposal, MITI added.

Okinawa Adopts Resolutions on Harrier Pad

OW2203004389 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese
18 Mar 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Kin—The Kin Town Assembly (chaired by Genichiro Hokama), currently in its March regular session, held a plenary meeting on the morning of 17 March to unanimously adopt a "statement, resolution, and request concerning the construction of the Harrier pad in the northern training area"; a "statement, resolution, and request concerning the construction of an urban combat training facility for U.S. Special Forces"; and a "declaration urging a halt to drunken driving and deaths caused by traffic accidents."

The "statement, resolution, and request concerning the construction of the Harrier pad" strongly called for an end to the construction. It said: "The construction site is a major water source for Okinawa and the most important habitat for rare birds and animals. Environmental destruction should not be allowed anywhere in the north." The "statement, resolution, and request concerning the construction of the urban combat training facility" called for immediate suspension of the construction work. It said: The construction site for the urban combat training facility is only several hundred meters from a residential area. Amid successive accidents and incidents, "the facility will pose a threat to residents and cause unrest. The construction of the facility shows that military bases are being consolidated and military training is being intensified. The construction should definitely not be allowed." The statement will be addressed to the Defense Agency, the prime minister, and government ministries and agencies concerned. The resolution will be addressed to the U.S. Consul General in Okinawa and the commander of U.S. Forces in Japan. The requests will be mailed to the Okinawa prefectural governor and the prefectoral assembly chairman.

The town assembly adopted the "declaration on drunken driving" out of concern for a succession of deaths caused by traffic accidents since the beginning of this year in Okinawa. "Most traffic accidents have been caused by youths driving while intoxicated. There have been no traffic accident deaths in the town. However, the town assembly has adopted the declaration as a reminder against drunken driving."

Dispute With USSR Over Kurile Islands Remains
OW2103134289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1315 GMT
21 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union on Tuesday failed to narrow their differences regarding the thorny issue of the four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The official, however, added that the two sides confirmed their strong intention of continuing their dialogue before a visit by Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno to Moscow scheduled for early May.

Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama and his Soviet counterpart Igor Rogachev exchanged views on a bilateral peace treaty for six hours and 10 minutes on the last day of their three-day session.

Japan and the Soviet Union agreed to set up a task force to discuss the possible bilateral peace treaty when Uno and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze met in Tokyo in December.

Kuriyama and Rogachev discussed the history of the four islands off the eastern tip of Hokkaido—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and Habomai island group.

Japan has long demanded the return of the islands, which the Soviet Union held at the end of World War II, as a prerequisite for conclusion of the peace treaty.

Kuriyama contended that the four islands were part of Japanese territory until the end of World War II, while Rogachev argued that the Russian people discovered, explored and developed the Kurile Islands, including the four islands in dispute.

The two countries remained far apart over the interpretation of the 1945 Yalta agreement and the 1951 peace treaty with Japan.

Kuriyama asserted that Japan is not bound by the Yalta agreement, of which it knew nothing at that time.

Rogachev turned down the Japanese claim, saying the 1945 pact gave the Soviet Union the right to hold the Kurile Islands, including the Northern territories.

Touching on the mission of the task force, Rogachev stressed the need to negotiate patiently for the interests of both sides.

Rogachev said that the possible peace treaty should include bilateral cooperation in such fields as trade, economy and culture.

Rogachev also added that the peace pact should stipulate the border between the two countries.

However, the Soviet deputy minister acknowledged that there are big differences in the two countries' claims over the border.

Kuriyama expressed hope that Japan and the Soviet Union will further promote their discussion for improved bilateral relations when Uno visits Moscow in May.

Rogachev promised that the Soviet Union will continue its efforts to develop bilateral ties.

Kuriyama and Rogachev shared the view that the three-day session helped to deepen mutual understanding between Japan and the Soviet Union.

They did not discuss a possible visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to Japan during the meeting, according to the official.

Takehiro Togo, director general of the Foreign Ministry's European Oceanic Affairs Bureau, and his Soviet counterpart Lyudvig Chizhov, will meet Wednesday afternoon to discuss the remaining agenda, including a bilateral fishery issue.

Rogachev will leave for Bangkok on Saturday after paying a courtesy call on Uno on Friday.

Soviets Urged To Reunite Koreans in Sakhalin
*OW2203141189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1308 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—Japan on Wednesday asked the Soviet Union to help promote reunion of Koreans living in Sakhalin and their relatives in South Korea, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Takehiro Togo, director general of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau, filed the request with Lyudvig Chizhov, who is responsible for Pacific and Southeast Asian affairs at the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Chizhov reacted positively but stopped short of making any Soviet commitment, the officials said.

Chizhov arrived here on Sunday on a week-long visit to Japan accompanying Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev, who had three days of talks with his Japanese counterpart Takakazu Kuriyama.

During a 90-minute meeting with Chizhov, Togo proposed holding a meeting of Japanese, Soviet and South Korean Red Cross officials to discuss the issue of family reunions involving Korean residents in Sakhalin.

An estimated 35,000 Koreans are living in Sakhalin, the southern half of which was Japanese territory before and during World War II. Those Koreans were taken there as forced labor by the Japanese during the war, or are the descendants of such laborers, government sources said.

The Koreans were left on the Soviet island following Japan's defeat in the war, and cannot visit South Korea because of the absence of diplomatic ties between Moscow and Seoul, the sources said.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said Togo asked Chizhov to take measures enabling South Koreans to visit Sakhalin to meet their relatives.

Togo also asked Chizhov to join Japan and South Korea in conducting joint research into the actual situation surrounding Koreans in Sakhalin.

Since 1987 over 200 Koreans in Sakhalin have visited Japan for reunions with relatives who came from South Korea for the occasion, according to the sources.

A group of four Japanese parliamentarians visited Seoul earlier this month and joined a Korean parliamentary group in sending a joint mission to Sakhalin, Diet sources said.

Meanwhile, on the issue of Japan-Soviet fishing rights, Togo urged the Soviet Union to withdraw a proposal to totally ban salmon fishing in international waters by 1992.

Talks have been under way in Moscow since March 14 to determine Japan's salmon quota for this year in the Northern Pacific.

Togo also urged the Soviets to respond positively to a Japanese request for expanding opportunities for Japanese to visit graves in four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido and on the Soviet mainland, the officials said.

Chizhov was quoted as saying that Moscow will review the matter from a humanitarian point of view.

Rogachev, Chizhov and the Soviet delegation are scheduled to leave Tokyo for Bangkok on Saturday, after Rogachev meets Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno and holds a press conference on Friday.

Air Self-Defense Forces Plane Crashes, 2 Dead
*OW2203032689 Tokyo KYODO in English 0315 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Miyazaki, March 22 KYODO—An Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) T-2 training plane crashed into the ocean off southwestern Japan on Wednesday morning, killing its two crewmen, the Defense Agency said.

Agency officials said the plane belonging to the ASDF's Nyutabaru Base in Miyagi Prefecture went down in the Sea of Hyuga about 110 kilometers east of the base at around 9:20 a.m.

The accident occurred while the plane was on a combat training mission with other planes.

The two crewmen, identified as Captain Tatsuo Masaki, 33, and Major Toshihiro Kawasaki, 38, were seen bailing out of the plane and their bodies were later discovered by rescuers, the officials said.

Training Flights Suspended
*OW2203104989 Tokyo KYODO in English 0939 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—The Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) suspended all training flights Wednesday after two officers were killed in an air crash during a training exercise.

ASDF officials said a T-2 training plane crashed into the Sea of Hyuga about 110 kilometers East of the Nyutabaru Base in Kyushu at about 9:20 a.m. Wednesday during a combat training mission.

Capt. Tatsuo Masaki, 33, and Maj. Toshihiro Kawasaki, 38, died shortly after they were picked up from the sea, ASDF officials said.

The plane was on a combat training flight at an altitude between 3,000 meters and 6,000 meters when it plunged into the sea, according to the officials. The exact cause of the accident was not immediately known.

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The officials said all ASDF training flights were suspended following the accident, and all concerned will check precautionary measures before flights are resumed.

Uno Pledges 'Maximum Cooperation' on Cambodia

*OW2203044089 Tokyo KYODO in English 0240 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said Wednesday that Japan will extend "the maximum cooperation" to talks among the United States, the Soviet Union, China and other nations in solving the Kampuchean conflict.

Uno made the statement in a meeting at the Foreign Ministry of 17 Japanese ambassadors and consul generals to East Asia and Oceania.

He also said Japan will extend such cooperation to an expanded dialogue between developed countries and newly industrializing economies (NIEs) in Asia.

The meeting was called to prepare for Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's visits to the member-nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in May.

It was called also to exchange views on U.S. and Soviet policies toward Asia and the Pacific region, the situations on the Korean peninsula and in Kampuchea, the normalization of relations between Indonesia and China, and a proposal to create an economic cooperative system in Asia and the Pacific region.

Cultural Aid Approved for India, Cameroon

*OW2003151389 Tokyo KYODO in English 1403 GMT
20 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 20 KYODO—Japan will grant up to 41 million yen in cultural aid to India to help the Indira Gandhi Art Center purchase audiovisual aids, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The Japanese Government will also provide Cameroon with up to 39 million yen in cultural aid to help buy gymnastic equipment, it said.

Mongolia

Politburo Pleased With Batmonh's India Visit

OW2103153289 Ulaanbaatar International Service

in English 0910 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Text] The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo has adopted a resolution on the outcome of the state visit by President Batmonh to India at the invitation of Indian President Venkata-raman between 7 March and [words indistinct].

The Politburo has fully approved the outcome of the talks of President Batmonh with Indian President Venkata-raman and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The Politburo noted that the friendly political relations between Mongolia and India should be furthered. The visit has been a new important event which has found both countries striving to (?strengthen) traditional Mongolian-Indian relations, says the resolution of the Politburo.

Batmonh Congratulates India's Rao on Reelection

*OW2003180189 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1502 GMT 18 Mar 89*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 18 Mar (MONTSAME)—J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee, has sent a congratulatory telegram to Rajeswara Rao, general secretary of the Communist Party of India [CPI] National Council, in connection with his reelection to this high position.

The telegram expressed confidence that the traditional fraternal ties established between their two parties will continue to broaden and develop.

The telegram also contained wishes of great success in C. R. Rao's task of carrying out the decisions of the 14th CPI Congress.

Protocol on Goods, Payments Signed With Laos

*OW2103105989 Ulaanbaatar NOVOSTI MONGOLII
in Russian 13 Dec 88 p 3*

[Text] A protocol on mutual supply of goods and payments for 1989 between the governments of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] and LPDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] has been signed in Ulaanbaatar. The document was signed by P. Badral, head of the MPR Government trade delegation and deputy minister of foreign economic relations and supply, and Sompadit Volasan, head of the LPDR government trade delegation and minister of foreign economic relations and trade [title as received].

The signing of the protocol was attended by responsible workers of the MPR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Supply and the MPR MID [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] as well as Khamkeng Saignakeo, LPDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the MPR.

UNEN Highlights 1989 Agricultural Targets

*OW2203095689 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1442 GMT 21 Mar 89*

[From the 21 March press review]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 21 Mar (MONTSAME)—In its editorial article UNEN stresses that an intensive period is beginning for farmers in the country. This year, which marks the 30th anniversary of the development of virgin

lands, they are faced with major tasks. The plan envisages a harvest of 853,300 tonnes of grain and 241,700 tonnes of potatoes and vegetables next fall. In connection with the country's requirements, it will also be necessary to harvest an additional 90,000-plus tonnes of grain and to make up for shortcomings in the potato and vegetable harvest of the past three years. Every possibility exists to fulfill the outlined tasks in all aymags and agricultural associations, the paper emphasizes.

UNEN Editorial Calls For Fuel Economy
*OW1603094989 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1502 GMT 9 Mar 89*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 9 Mar (MONTSAME)—Today, our country uses twice the amount of petroleum products, purchases them from abroad for four times as much as 10 years ago, and spends half its annual profits from exports on them. All of this points to the need for wise, economic use of lubricants and fuels, notes the newspaper UNEN in its editorial article today.

As a result of measures aimed at economizing petroleum products in the past 6 years, more than 20,000 tonnes of fuel were saved throughout the country due to its planned use. At the same time, it has still not become possible to marshal all available resources and opportunities, the paper points out. A careless and wasteful attitude toward petroleum products remains in the majority of economic organizations, which also has an unfavorable influence on the balanced development of the economy.

The article criticizes organizations in Bulgan, Hovsgol, Dzabhan, and Dornogobi aymags, Darhan City, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, and civil air transport which, in recent years, have failed to fulfill tasks for economizing fuel.

The struggle to reduce the proportion of expenditures for petroleum products in the material expenditures of the national economy is becoming the responsibility of all transport organizations and drivers. Technical engineering workers and working people in agriculture, power engineering, and other branches using large volumes of fuel and lubricants must understand that economizing fuel is not only of important social and economic significance and influences the improvement of the people's welfare, but will be implemented as an integral part of the country's economic renewal as well, the paper notes.

North Korea

'Team Spirit' Called 'Surprise Invasion' Plan
*SK2203102389 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—NODONG SIN-MUN today carries a signed article titled " 'Team Spirit' for Surprise Invasion."

The "Team Spirit" joint military exercises being staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are a war game to invade the northern half of Korea in a blitz way from the sky, ground and sea, the article says, and continues:

The U.S. imperialists do not conceal the fact that they have applied the principle of "air-ground warfare" in each "Team Spirit" war game in recent years. As regards the "air-ground warfare" the U.S. imperialist aggression forces blared that its "main points are preemptive attack, a hard strike at the heart of the opposite side in its depth, high manouvreability and simultaneous start of operations".

In fact, in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises such attacks on the front as rapid strike on the ground, aerial mobile strike, seashore landing and strike at the rear are combined with simultaneous attacks on the depth of the opposite side, that is, three-dimensional attacks on the northern half of Korea in a blitz warfare.

On the ground huge armed forces massed south of the Military Demarcation Line are staging an operation exercise to smash the concrete wall built along the Military Demarcation Line and break through the frontline at a time, a drill of launching "lance" missiles, a river-crossing operation, a cross-mountain exercise and other exercises of various kinds.

A drill of dispatching various paratroopers and landing forces on a large scale simulating the occupation of the frontline area and the depth of the rear of the northern half of Korea is now being staged on the sea, too.

The sky also is a scene of a largest sortie operation, a drill of striking at the depth of the interior and a drill of dropping nuclear bombs, to say nothing of aerial mobile operation, which are aimed to attack the rear of the northern half of Korea.

What draws particular attention is the movement of special units. The U.S. imperialists incessantly stage a drill of penetrating into the rear of the northern half of Korea backpack nuke units, special units carrying minimized nuclear bombs in knapsacks for storming "subdivided targets" of the "interior heart of the opposite side".

The utterances of the brasshats of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces that the "Team Spirit" has made it possible to undertake an "undclared war" in recent years are a proof of the dangerous nature of the war game for a surprise invasion.

The U.S. imperialists have already not only examined, modified and completed an operational plan to attack the northern half of Korea in an overall way, but redeployed their units for attack and placed the society under a war-time system, thus rounding off all preparations necessary for a surprise attack.

The "Team Spirit" under way in South Korea might be a real war any minute.

The U.S. imperialists had better stop the foolish play with fire and act with discretion.

Buddhist Sermon Stresses Need for DCRK
*SK2203104789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—A Buddhist mass commemorating Nirvana Day was held today at the Kwanum Temple in Mt. Chonma in Kaesong adjacent to the Military Demarcation Line which artificially divides Korea.

Attending the mass were priests of the temple and Kaesong Municipality, monks of the Central Committee and the Kaesong Municipal Committee of the Korean Buddhists Federation, and believers in Kaesong.

A ritual and a sermon took place at the mass.

In the sermon on the subject "Let Us Devote Ourselves To Building a Buddhist Paradise on This Soil Following the Behest of Buddha," venerable Hong Am, chairman of the Kaesong Municipal Committee of the Buddhists Federation, stressed that the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK] must be established at an early date, if a Buddhist paradise is to be built by Korean Buddhist disciples on this soil today.

The DCRK is an independent and non-aligned unified state which does not allow foreign domination and war. It would, indeed, be an earthly paradise in Korea where the entire fellow countrymen would be able to enjoy genuine freedom and peace, he emphasized.

He urged the Buddhist disciples in South Korea to discharge their obligation and role as Buddhist disciples of Korea by sweeping away the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppet fascist clique and building a free and peaceful earthly paradise in this land at an early date, pooling strength with workers, peasants, youth and students, and other strata of people, true to the behest of Buddha.

Masses were also held today at other Buddhist temples in the northern half of the country including the Pohyon Temple in Mt. Myohyang and the Pyohun Temple in Mt. Kumgang.

No's Appraisal Postponement 'Insult to People'
*SK2203043289 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—Papers here today comment on the announcement of the traitor No Tae-u on March 20 that he would refuse an "interim assessment" in order to "stabilize the political situation."

The "interim assessment" is an "election commitment" made by No Tae-u himself. In the "presidential election" in December 1987, he clearly set the date of the "interim assessment" and formulated its method, declaring that, if he took office, he would "hold a referendum to ask the confidence of the people within one year after the Olympic games" and in case he was defeated, he would "resign."

A news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

No Tae-u had declared that he would "carry out early" the "interim evaluation", his "election commitment", not in the form of "confidence vote", but in the form of "politics assessment" contrary to his original "pledge," and now he declared that he would refuse even that under the pretext of "social disorder." This is an unpardonable mockery of and insult to the people.

By throwing away his "promise of interim assessment" in defiance of the people, No Tae-u the puppet stripped himself bare as a shameless hypocrite and fascist plotter who does not shrink from any political trick for the prolongation of the military dictatorial "regime."

At the same time, he fully revealed once again what a traitor for all ages he is, utterly isolated and rejected by the popular masses.

No's outcry that, if an "interim evaluation" is made at this moment, it would cause a "social disorder" means his admitting his isolation. Looking squarely at the reality, he should step down from "power" as demanded by the people and face judgement by history.

News Conference Held in Soviet Embassy
*SK2103152889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT
21 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 21 (KCNA)—A press conference took place today at the Soviet Embassy here on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the USSR.

Addressing the press conference, Minister-Counsellor Boris Morozov of the Soviet Embassy underscored the significance of the signing of the agreement between the two countries and elaborated on the constant strengthening and development of the economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries during the past four decades following its signing.

He expressed the belief that the traditional Soviet - Korean relations of cooperation would grow stronger and develop in all spheres.

Soviet Official Hails Festival Preparations
*SK2203042889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—Vladimir Sergeyev who was visiting Korea at the head of a Soviet trade union delegation was interviewed before leaving for home.

He said he witnessed at first hand the efforts of the Korean people and young builders to hasten preparations for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students [WFYS] in keeping with the desire and purpose of the youth and students on the five continents.

Noting that the buildings erected in the festival City of Pyongyang in a short span of time will satisfy participants in the festival for their fashionable and peculiar features, he said that all the gymnasiums including the basketball gymnasium and the indoor swimming pool in Chongchun Street look like palaces.

While seeing the wonderfully built festival objects, he said: I became convinced that the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students would be held more successfully.

Stressing that the festival which will be guided by the idea of anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and friendship is an event of weighty international significance, he said the 13th WFYS to be held in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the first of its kind in Asia, has become a focus of great expectation and concern of the world as it reflects well the urgent requirements of the times and the unanimous desire and purpose of the youth and students on the five continents.

Saying the Pyongyang festival will be a festival demonstrating the united might of the youth and students and peoples on the five continents and strengthening their solidarity, he wished the Korean people and youth greater success in their work for pushing ahead with preparations for the festival.

Foreign Diplomats Tour Revolutionary Site
*SK2103153089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT
21 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 21 (KCNA)—Foreign diplomatic envoys and embassy officials here visited the Ponghwa historical revolutionary site in Kangdong County, Pyongyang, today on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the formation of the Korean National Association organized and led by Kim Hyong-chik, an indomitable revolutionary fighter and outstanding leader of the anti-Japanese national liberation movement in Korea.

While being briefed on the revolutionary activities and immortal fighting exploits of Kim Hyong-chik who devoted his all to the sacred struggle for national liberation and people's freedom and liberation, the guests went

round with keen interest the house where he lived, the shallow well, the morning exercise site, the rock site on Mt. Ponghwa and other historical revolutionary places.

At the end of the visit Palestinian Ambassador to Korea Mustapha Safrin, doyen of the foreign diplomatic corps, made an entry into the visitor's book. In the entry he wrote he got a better knowledge through the visit of the life and activities of Kim Hyong-chik, an anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter, and the Korean National Association organized and led by him was a revolutionary organization for liberating Korea from the colonial yoke.

Shock Brigades Lead Technical Innovation
*SK2203104189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—The massive technical innovation movement is brisk in Korea.

Standing in the van of this movement are members of the "April 15 technical innovation shock brigades" organized at industrial establishments across the country.

Members of the "April 15 technical innovation shock brigades" in North and South Hamgyong Provinces have carried into effect some 10,000 technical innovation proposals in a little more than five months. During the time the brigade members in North Hamgyong Province have applied about 6,000 proposals to production, thus saving 34,000 tons of coal, 5,000 tons of rolled steel and cement, 3,000 tons of oil and other materials and workforce. Brigade members in South Hamgyong Province have carried into practice 4,800 technical innovation proposals, greatly contributing to modernizing the existing production technical process and increasing its productivity.

The ministry of Yongsong machine industries has introduced a robotized streamlined extruding process, raising productivity 2.5 times.

The Hungnam fertilizer complex has introduced an automation system in the production of phosphate fertilizer to turn out 20,000 more tons of phosphate fertilizer in a year.

Fierce Struggle Against 'Vicious Tyrant' Urged
*SK2203035089 (Clandestine) Voice of National
Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Talk from the "Hour for Youths and Students" program: "Let Us Crush the Fascist Offensive by Waging a Fierce Struggle"]

[Text] As soon as the New Year began the No Tae-u ring, which babbled during its New Year news interview that it would deal with illegal collective actions that threaten the so-called free democratic system by strictly applying laws, has more openly exposed its true colors as a very vicious fascist tyrant in recent days. Last month alone, during a party-government joint meeting and luncheon

meeting and during his inspection tour of the National Police Headquarters, while branding the patriotic democratic forces who seek independence, democracy, and reunification as forces who destroy law and order, as forces who seek a communist revolution, or as impure left-leaning groups who resort to violence, traitor No Tae-u resorted to threats by saying that he would resolutely deal with these forces in order not to be considered a weak president any longer.

In particular, even during inspection tours to the Cholla Provinces, the Kyongsang Provinces, Kyonggi Province, and other local provinces, he stressed that he would sternly deal with those forces who destroy law and order and those who seek a violent class revolution. Due to traitor No Tae-u's order for fascist suppression, the police are sweeping into places where the workers are waging strikes and sit-in struggles, thus further strengthening the commotions of violence and arrests, and tear gas canisters and police batons are flying over peaceful demonstrations by peasants who seek to abolish the water tax and who oppose free imports of American agricultural and livestock products, injuring numerous demonstrators. Moreover, members of the National Coalition of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation, who were headed for Panmunjom to meet the North's delegates with a strong ardent desire of all the people for reunification, were blocked from going to Panmunjom by U.S. soldiers and fascist police; were forcibly taken away to a police station; and were booked without physical detention. Such acts by the fascist clique clearly show that traitor No Tae-u, after discarding his deceptive promise for democratization, has begun to launch massive-scale offensives against the patriotic democratic forces.

What cannot be overlooked is the fact that the No Tae-u fascist ring is directing the spearhead of its suppression offensive to the campuses. This was well shown when the National Police Headquarters, in its so-called guideline on cracking down on violent collective demonstrations, ordered an offensive crackdown to arrest and detain not only those who played a major role in such demonstrations but also all participants; when the prosecutor general, while saying that he cannot allow orientation sessions for freshmen organized by student councils of universities to be turned into places where communism is propagandized, ordered the police throughout the country to thoroughly analyze all sorts of activities and data and to sternly punish those acts that violate existing laws; when, following this order, Miss (Hong Hyon-chu), chief of the Human Relations Department of Konguk University's General Student Council, who printed the booklet "New Perspective" distributed to university freshmen, was placed on the wanted list for violating the State Security Law; and when, a few days ago, the education minister, saying that the students are now excessively interfering in the election of deans, the receipt of tuitions, freshmen orientation sessions, and other school affairs, ordered each university to make utmost efforts to stabilize the campus and to strictly

apply its school regulations to students who shatter the studious atmosphere. As a result, on-campus inspections have been further strengthened, and as was seen in Yongnam University, the violent police are even frequently conducting checks and searches at the entrance gates of universities in order to arrest students who are on the wanted list.

Youths and students: Why is the No Tae-u ring further strengthening its fascist suppression offensive against the patriotic democratic forces and, in particular, the commotions of carrying out on-campus inspections and detaining and searching for our youths and students? This is part of its maneuvers to prevent the ardent desire for struggle of our youths and students, who have always played in an important role in the anti-U.S. and antifascist movement for reunification and national salvation, from growing daily.

Embarrassed at the fact that our youths and students have waged a more popular and active struggle with the coming of the new semester, the No Tae-u ring is using more cunning and vicious tricks. Therefore, by branding our youths and students and the patriotic democratic forces as elements who destroy law and order and as forces who seek a violent class revolution, it seeks to isolate them from the people on one hand, and by strengthening the commotions of arrests and searches, it is creating a terror-ridden atmosphere on the other. In particular, at the present time when the will of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] to participate in the 13th World Festival of Youths and Students has become firm, it is attempting to block Chondaehyop from going to Pyongyang by further strengthening campus suppression. In a word, the No Tae-u ring's fascist suppression offensive, which has recently become more vicious, is a criminal maneuver to weaken and obliterate the movement for independence, democracy, and reunification. As this is a desperate effort, it shows that the fascist regime's destiny is faced with a more serious crisis.

Past history shows that even though fascist rulers suppress progressive forces more ruthlessly when faced with a more serious crisis, this will only result in their own miserable demise. No matter what suppression maneuvers and physical force it may resort to, the No Tae-u fascist clique can in no way block the righteous struggle of our youths and students and the patriotic masses for independence, democracy, and reunification.

We believe that our youths and students, as they did in the past, will fulfill their mission as vanguards in the anti-U.S. and antifascist movement for reunification and national salvation and as flag bearers in the struggle, squarely seeing the ulterior motive of the No Tae-u ring's fascist suppression commotions.

When our youths and students, who are burning with a sense of patriotism, further consolidate their will for struggle and when they wage a more active struggle in a

more masses-oriented and organized manner in strong solidarity with the workers, peasants, and patriotic masses of all other walks of life, the day of independence, democracy, and reunification, which they hope for even in their dreams, will be further hastened.

Kim Tae-chung Taken To Task Over No Appraisal
SK2203091189 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] The current arena of politics has been much astir with the issue of No Tae-u's interim appraisal. The national indignation against the dictator, who discarded his own pledges like scraps of paper to grasp political power and mount a fascist campaign, is being solidified as the will to take this opportunity of the interim appraisal to resolutely overthrow No Tae-u.

However, there is discord among the opposition circles, which should instead be in consensus with the voices of the nation, and this arouses criticism in society. Thus, this discord casts a dark shadow of disappointment over the nation which is preparing to stand at the vanguard.

Recently, a high-ranking figure of the first opposition party, who was entangled in the ruling party's pressure and tactics, committed shameful activities by devoting himself to political interests and strategy. He thus lost the people's faith in his abilities as a politician. Disregarding both his promise to the nation to be at the vanguard of the struggle for democratization and for overthrowing the military dictatorship and his promise to other opposition circles to deal with the interim appraisal, Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], is looking to his own interests and greed while constantly changing his position.

In fact, the interim appraisal was an efficient bait aimed at rigging the 16 December 1987 presidential election that No Tae-u used to deceive the nation. Now, it is no more than a political stepping stone for the No Tae-u regime, which faces a dilemma, to make a frontal breakthrough.

Instead of unveiling the No Tae-u group's vicious colors in keeping with the popular will under the current changed circumstances and instead of attending to the struggle, PPD President Kim Tae-chung is busy dancing to Chongwadae's tune and sharing the view of No Tae-u, the enemy of the nation.

Furthermore, considering PPD President Kim Tae-chung absurd activities after talking with No Tae-u at Chongwadae, the nation cannot remain silent about the insincerity of his intentions. Through his shameful absurd activities, Kim Tae-chung once again clearly revealed that his democratic structure, which he has urged for over a decade, is nothing but a gesture to mock the nation and a strategy to gain popularity and realize his political aspirations.

The first opposition party, with the firm will for democratization, should naturally chastize the entire military dictatorial regime, which is attempting to prolong itself, by using the opportunity of the interim appraisal. The party should stand in the vanguard of settling the current tasks, while thoroughly adhering to public opinion and acting in the interests of the nation.

The entire nation, which stands at the historical crossroads between dictatorship and democratization, faces a choice that cannot be delayed and aspires to denounce the dictator No Tae-u by taking the opportunity of the interim appraisal if it will be conducted and to begin a new era for democratization by putting an end to the military regime.

Thus, the issue of the interim appraisal is profound in political meaning, and it can be a rare opportunity to realize the national aspiration for democratization. Therefore, at a future time when a hand-to-hand fight with the military dictatorship is needed, it is perfidy and treason to the nation that PPD President Kim Tae-chung, forgetting his duty as a high-ranking opposition figure, relinquished the soaring national expectation and the consensus reached among the three opposition parties and easily threw himself into the embrace of the ruling party.

The nation vividly remembers Kim Tae-chung's promise to resolutely fight the No Tae-u regime which has forced the nation into the threatened evaluation of the interim appraisal. If he is president of the opposition party resting on national support, he should naturally represent the national voices from the standpoint of the nation and should have the clear conscience of a politician who can hold fast to the national voices to the end and can resolutely restrain the ruling party. If he is a true politician who shares both sorrow and pleasure with the masses in the fight for democratization, he should not commit shameful and perfidious activities which discredit him such as crossing the threshold of Chongwadae for a few hours. He should not pour cold water upon the national struggle for democratization which would be an historic turning point.

If the opposition parties are utterly divided instead of united in the combat that should be won and if once again they fall prey to the enemy's stratagem, they cannot shun the grave responsibilities resulting from their actions.

Taking the opportunity of No Tae-u's interim appraisal, the opposition parties must play a role in the struggle for democratization and ending the military dictatorial regime. In addition, the role PPD President Kim Tae-chung should play cannot be regarded as insignificant.

PPD President Kim Tae-chung has repeatedly stressed that politicians should engage themselves in political affairs without showing interest in political profit and strategy. Now, he, who was blinded by his political

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aspirations, should repent [word indistinct], stand as a true man of conviction, and discharge his duty as the president of the opposition party which the nation expects and follows.

At a time when Korean independence and democratization is most urgently needed, firm unity with the off-stage democratic forces is most important in the struggle to overthrow the No Tae-u military dictatorial regime.

The fortress of dictatorship will fall off like a rotten rock by the solid potential forces like [word indistinct]. In this way, the nation can see the new land brightly tingling with the democratic glow.

Resolutely, in unity with the off-stage democratic forces, the opposition party forces should take common strategic steps and should boldly wage the campaign to discredit and overthrow the No Tae-u regime. In view of the high level of national destiny, all of us should force the No Tae-u military dictatorial regime to step down through a campaign to discredit the No Tae-u military dictatorial regime, no matter how frantically the No Tae-u group continues the political drama for prolonging his military regime.

While dealing a blow to Chongwadae in keeping with the public will, the united power of the democratic and patriotic forces will surely accomplish the historic task of ending the military regime, which failed to occur in either the June popular resistance or the 16 December 1987 presidential election.

South Korea

Defection of Soldier to North Confirmed

SK2203081789 Seoul YONHAP in English 0813 GMT
22 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea Wednesday admitted that a soldier has defected to North Korea but denied a Pyongyang report that the defector's unit was engaged in the ongoing South Korean-U.S. military exercise.

North Korea reported Tuesday that Private Kim Tae-sik of the 12th Army Division crossed the border to escape the annual Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" military exercise.

The 12th Division is not engaged in the joint exercise and has no relationship with the maneuvers, a spokesman for the southern Defense Ministry said.

"North Korea has manipulated the defector's motivation to propagandize evil rumors against Team Spirit," the spokesman said, adding that a probe is under way by military investigation authorities to determine the motive of Kim's defection.

North Korea has repeatedly charged that the 10-day drill, which began March 14, heightens tension on the Korean peninsula and should be abolished.

Kim was a student at Yonsei University in Seoul when he joined the Army.

N-S Writers Preliminary Talks Planned for 27 Mar
SK2203112589 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
1000 GMT 22 Mar 89

[Text] The National Literature and Writers Conference decided to hold the preliminary talks for the North-South writers talks at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1000 [0100 GMT] on 27 March and to send five delegates led by the poet Ko-Un.

The preparatory committee of the National Literature and Writers Conference for the promotion of the North-South writers talks revealed in a news conference this afternoon that on 16 March the Korean Writers Union of North Korea Central Committee accepted the South side's proposal to hold the preliminary talks at Panmunjom on 27 March. The North side announced to the public in a letter that North Korea would send five delegates to the preliminary talks led by Choe Yong-hwa, first vice-chairman of the North Korean General Federation of Unions of Korean Literature and Arts.

*** Diary of Scenes From Visit to North Korea**
41070048 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 16, 17,
19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28 Dec 88 [//]
am, Chicago bureau chief of CHUNGANG ILBO]

[16 Dec 88 p 3]

[Text] North Korea is clearly moving toward more openness. One indication of a more open society is that for the first time in 43 years of division, they had allowed a South Korean newspaper reporter to enter the country. From the moment I first set foot in Pyongyang, I noted that everything was different from my preconceived notions, and small trends toward an open society were in evidence. They graciously accorded me every facility so that this "Nam Choson [South Korean] reporter" could gather his story. And even though they referred to me as "the reporter from Nam Choson," the residents I met on the streets did not try to avoid me, nor did they harbor hostility toward me, but responded to me naturally. (In North Korea they cannot use the term "Nam Han" [South Korea] and Puk Han [North Korea] but instead use the term Choson.) I noticed a lot of women dressed in Western clothing, all prettied up in the latest style with their eyebrows evenly plucked with a pair of tweezers and with makeup on. They were wearing high-heel shoes and boots decorated with brass ornaments.

Every Convenience Provided

There were unmarried mothers who had become pregnant from premarital affairs, and drunks urinating on the side of the streets or collapsed in the underpasses, and I thought, "So real people do live here after all!"

In short, my 1 week in North Korea was a series of new experiences—an intertwining of tension, excitement, and anxiety. Although there were signs that North Korea was moving toward more openness, I realized anew that 43 years of division and separation of the people of North and South had brought on all too vast and deep differences in their way of thinking. When I asked some workers dressed in khaki quilted clothing, "Isn't your work hard?" they answered laughing, "What are you talking about? We're doing this to repay the benevolence of the great leader Kim Il-song and for the fatherland." Clearly, Pyongyang was a society where the open and the closed existed side by side.

I felt a commingling of fear and excitement as the China Civil Airlines plane lifted off from Beijing on 9 December, bound for Pyongyang, the forbidden land. There were over 40 passengers on the plane. About 10 of them were wearing Kim Il-song badges.

I tried to suppress the uneasiness I felt at the indefinable pounding in my chest as the strains of the familiar song "Gathering Seashells at Chinju" flowed from the loudspeakers in the plane.

"Why Would We Do Such a Thing?"

Only for a short time did I try to avoid the gaze of the passengers who stole sidelong glances at me as I made some notes in my notepad about the atmosphere on the airplane.

"Are you Chosen Soren?" I was startled by the question from the passenger in the next seat, and replied, "I'm a U.S. Korean resident." The North Korean, who said he was a Japanese language interpreter assigned to the General Bureau of Tourism, looked to be in his early forties, but said he was 33. He said he was surprised, because men who dress up in suits and wear gold frame glasses are generally assumed to be Korean residents of Japan. After exchanging a few pleasantries, I tried a daring question. "Do you know about Miss Kim Hyon-hui?" "Who is Kim Hyon-hui?" I did not immediately answer his question—which stressed the word "who"—because I could not bring myself to say the words "the KAL [Korean Air Lines] bomber." "... You know, the KAL passenger plane crashed and a large number of passengers died...." "Ah, that incident? You mean Bahrain, right?" "Yes. It's been a year since the incident," I said. "It's just plain common sense when you think about it. Why would we do such a thing? And what would we have to gain? We don't know anything about Kim Hyon-hui." As the China Civil Airlines plane crossed over the Chongchon River and prepared for

landing, I craned my neck and pointed my camera at the unfolding panorama of farmland outside the window. Once again I began to feel apprehensive. Outwardly it looked exactly like the countryside around Mindongsan, my native home in the South. I could see the neatly arranged fields and the matchbox-like houses. Just then I thought I saw some trucks outfitted with what appeared to be large antennas. Then suddenly, with a "plump," the plane landed.

I Lose, Find My Notebook

The moment I walked down the ramp and set foot on North Korean soil I had a really strange feeling. I shook hands with the officials who had come out to the plane and were waiting for me. And as our party headed toward the airport terminal I handed my camera to one of the officials and asked him to take a souvenir photo of me. I had just asked him to make sure the whole building and the "Pyongyang" sign were in the picture, when the whole thing was foiled. A soldier dressed in khaki, cold-weather gear and carrying a walkie-talkie suddenly appeared and pushed the official aside and yelled at him. Then he turned to me and demanded, "What are you taking a picture of?" Afterwards, inside the terminal, until we got to the VIP lounge I felt nervous and unsure of myself. When I fished my hand into my pocket to find my ballpoint pen to fill out the entry forms, I realized I had left my notebook on the aircraft. In the notepad were written my plan for covering the story, some notes, and the telephone number and FAX number of the American bureau of the newspaper. I had also jotted down some thoughts for my story: "That frozen land—North Korea—lay exposed outside the airplane window. I felt a mixture of excitement and fear...." "Now I've had it," I thought, heaving an involuntary sigh.

Vivacious Hotel Girls

As I walked the 300 meters back to the empty plane I had all sorts of gloomy forebodings. I was suddenly seized with the dread that the soldier who had yelled at me a little while ago would be waiting for me on the airplane. Inside the plane three women were sweeping the carpet with brooms. Fortunately my notebook was still there where I had been sitting. Feeling the deep emotion of being the "first South Korean reporter to set foot on North Korean soil," I was consumed with anxiety about this incident on my first day.

I was fully prepared to go back to the airport if the problem snowballed and I concluded that my safety was in jeopardy.

But after I arrived at the Koryo Hotel, where I was staying, the uneasiness gradually faded away. The 2 dozen or so female employees who work at the Koryo Hotel were around 20 to 25 years old, they were all attractive and articulate. In particular the "comrade

"hostesses" who worked in the bar in the basement of the hotel were as vivacious as any in the West and were skilled at making witty rejoinders to the intemperate jokes of the customers.

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The pretty, vivacious hostesses who work in the hotel appeared to be very sensitive to the recently increasing signs of greater openness. One day I asked a 22-year-old hostess, "Do you think you might like to marry a young man who is a U.S. Korean resident?" She retorted: "Why should I want to leave this glorious fatherland where life is so good? If the young man were to marry into the warm bosom of the fatherly leader and live here with me, I might consider it." She sarcastically remarked that it seemed that a lot of Korean-Americans were womanizers. "The Korean-Americans who stay in the Koryo Hotel all say they're either bachelors or divorced. Are you a bachelor, too?" she needled. Most of the North Korean women I met were good conversationalists and could take a joke, as I said, but when you actually sat down and talked with them you could see they were innocent and unsullied. "Do you know what the 25th of December is?" I asked, and then I explained that it was Christ's birthday, which is celebrated all over the world. Her prompt reply was "I've heard about Christmas from some visitor from the West, but we don't need it. We prefer getting together and celebrating the birthday of the comrade great leader or our own traditional holidays. What is Jesus Christ to us?" she said, casting a look of disapproval. When I looked over by the escalator where the hostess was pointing I saw a flower pot with a poinsettia, the symbol of Christmas. In an instant I realized that this was a small sign of the changes now underway in North Korea. At first I thought that they had reluctantly put it there because the hotel was frequented by a lot of foreign tourists, but when I took a closer look I found there were six poinsettia planters in the Koryo Hotel. What does the appearance of Christmas flowers in this closed and buttoned-up society tell us? In this society where, from the time they were being breast-fed until they finished their schooling and became adults, people have "the great and the dear" dinned into their ears, it is indeed a great change that this young girl would hear—and moreover even recall—these bits of new information casually mentioned by a couple of tourists. And it was not only stories about Christmas. Although it was still an extremely small ripple of opening up, I felt it pushing against and seeping in gently through the outer doors of this society that had been tightly closed for over 40 years.

"In the United States do people kiss and hug each other even on the street?" she asked. She made a wry mouth that said this was a dreadful thing, but I thought it was significant that she had heard this from someone and remembered it. "They say there are also fools who close their eyes and bow their heads before eating their meals," she said, and I was even happy to hear this slur directed at Christians.

And there was also this incident. At a counter in a roast-clam specialty restaurant—we might consider it a snackbar—I happened to overhear a conversation between a young man dressed in a university student uniform and the waitress, who was about the same age. "What time do you get off work?" he asked. "Why do you ask?" she shot back. "Because I'd like to go walking with you." "I won't be off for a while." "When you go home today, don't go out the front, but use the back door. I'll wait for you." Although the college boy was a little tipsy, he was very serious. The girl was miffed. It was a scene not very different from what you would find in Seoul. On Changgwang Street, where the Koryo Hotel is located, there are some 20 different restaurants in a row—the Sungni Restaurant, Yaksan Restaurant, a pancake house, and casserole and barbecued beef restaurants. They even call it "Food Street." So you often come across scenes of North Korean residents going out to eat or young men and women talking together. The Koryo Hotel—the largest in Pyongyang—is nearby, so the residents frequently come across foreign tourists and probably learn some Western social customs from them. Not only in this district, but in other places in Pyongyang as well, one frequently sees families or young couples dining out together. This is the face of Pyongyang today.

According to a source in the General Bureau of Tourism, from 30,000 to 50,000 tourists visit Pyongyang annually and in the future this will increase. So the external changes I spoke of are certain to speed up. Not only that, I was also astounded when I visited an ordinary residence (in North Korea they call apartments "residences") early in the morning without any advance warning. Without a guide, and with no particular destination, I just barged into one of the apartments. I knocked on the entrance and was invited in. I found that the apartment had two bedrooms, a modern kitchen and a bathroom with a toilet and bathtub. It had a refrigerator and a gas range as well. The housewife, in her forties, cordially answered the questions of the rude stranger from overseas, and unfailingly said, "We are living well thanks to the benevolence of the comrade great leader."

The housewife, who said she was a Russian translator, told me that her husband was a university professor and they had three children. Two sons were in the military and her daughter was working at a construction site.

Inside the refrigerator were four eggs and kimchi, and in covered dishes were things like changjorim (meat boiled down in soy sauce) and anchovies boiled in soy sauce. A kimchi crock and a bean paste crock were out on the veranda; in the living room there was a open plastic sewing box containing needles and thread and a light bulb, as though someone had been darning socks. She earned 130 won a month and her husband made 150, which put them around the middle income bracket, but the apartment next door was larger, with three bedrooms, she said.

The income of Pyongyang residents ranged from a low of 80 won to around 150 won—the dollar-won exchange rate was around 1:2—and rent, tuition, and medical expenses were all free.

Perhaps the apartment I visited belonged to a member of the affluent class, but there are countless apartment buildings in Pyongyang like the one I chose to visit. Of course, it is true that the apartment buildings were similar to apartments where the ordinary masses live in Seoul; many appeared to be not even as good. Still, it was the unanimous conclusion of Korean-Americans who had gone with me as members of the tour group, the guides, and the many people that I met and interviewed on the streets, that even though they may well perform difficult and arduous labor, no resident of Pyongyang has to worry about food.

Despite my substantiation, however, the accounts given by North Korea specialists at home and abroad make me depressed. They say: "The North Korean authorities have given special attention to Pyongyang. They have relocated all the handicapped and the poor outside the city or to other provinces, and poor people on the brink of starvation still make up a considerable proportion of North Korea's total population."

Anyway—at least insofar as I was able to see—there were all kinds of shops everywhere in Pyongyang and residents were lined up with their baskets to buy vegetables and other groceries. I went to two department stores, including Department Store No 1, and the necessities of life I found there were on a par with those of South Korea in the early 1960's. To this reporter, the women's merchandise such as brassieres, mascara, rouge, and skin lotion appeared inferior. It was interesting that they advertised cotton panties as "short underwear," small, soft Western-style panties as "sanitary panties," and sanitary napkins as "sanitary belts."

It is also true, as defectors from North Korea have said at press conferences, that "you have to save up 2 or 3 months' salary to buy a man's suit." A acrylic-wool blend suit cost 249 won. Perhaps because there were no opportunities to wear suits, there were no customers in the suit department.

I noticed a bunch of people were crowded together in one spot and I went to see what was going on, only to find they were having a sale on flashlights. At a counter where soap, shampoo, and cosmetics were displayed there was a bottle labeled as "rinse." On closer inspection I saw that it was hair conditioner to make the hair softer after shampooing. A young couple standing near me were looking at the conditioner and whispering: "If you rinse your hair with that after shampooing, your hair becomes as soft as a little child's. Isn't that remarkable!"

At a counter where electronic goods were on display, a black and white television was marked at 235 won, a color television at 1,556 won, and a Sony color television

at 2,927 won. North Korean made guitars, accordions, violins, and saxophones were being sold. A "Cricket" brand guitar was 30 won and a "Kaesong" brand violin cost 80 won.

In the large, 5-story department store a lot of people were bustling about, but relatively few were buying things. To save electricity they had extinguished the lights completely and were conducting business in the dark. In Pyongyang the campaign to conserve electricity had become a way of life. In the case of the Koryo Hotel, the corridors were dark. After getting off the elevator you turned on the light to check your room number, then turned it off again and went into your room. This procedure was rigidly adhered to.

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North Korea's college entrance exams, unlike those of South Korea, are given in June and July. North Korea's "entrance test war"—as it was called by Principal Kim Mong-chu (54) when I dropped in at the Yongbuk Girls' Senior Middle School on Yonghung Street—is a more severe problem of "life and death" than in South Korea. Principal Kim—who said he was a graduate of the history department of Kim Il-song University Teachers College, the mathematics department of Kim Hyong-chik Teachers College, and a correspondence course education college—told me he had been the first principal of the school when it was founded, was reappointed, and has been in that position ever since.

"With the greatest love for students, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song instructed in September 1972 that an 11-year compulsory education system be set up," Principal Kim boasted. And after some bitter experiences, the children of all the people are now studying devotedly in his bosom, he said.

Only 45 Percent Go on to College

Principal Kim said that of the total student enrollment of 1,000 persons, only 45 percent go on to college. "The students who flunk go right into factories," he said.

According to him, there is, of course, an opportunity to have a retest, but the fact of the matter is, because they have to prepare for the test while working in the factory, there is no equivalent word in North Korea for "test repeater" as in the South. Therefore, at this turning point in their lives—which will determine whether they become white collar workers or laborers—students must study as if it were a matter of life or death.

In the 6-year senior middle school the curriculum consists of "The Revolutionary History of Kim Il-song"—a required course—Korean language and literature, world literature, Korean and world history and geography, plus courses in English and Russian. In addition, there are 7 hours of mathematics a week, and 4 hours each of physics, biology, and chemistry.

Chinese-character education is taught as an elective, but the majority of North Koreans I met in Pyongyang were unable to read my namecard written in Chinese characters.

Required courses are taught each day from 0800 to 1330, and classes are dismissed temporarily while students go home for lunch. They return to extracurricular classes at 1430. Available are technical education courses such as electronics, machinery, automotive, and drafting; performing arts such as music and art; and physical education.

I went into a classroom where they were teaching English and asked one of the students, "Since you hate the United States so much, how can you study English?" He answered in a loud voice, "I am learning English in order to smash the American bastards." It is a matter of "know the enemy and know yourself [in a hundred battles there will be a hundred victories]."

The Goal of Education: Unification

Principal Kim continued, saying that the goal of North Korean education was "correctly teaching unification and the task of revolution." After I personally visited all the classes that were in session, I went to the music room where I was able to observe chorus, solo, and instrumental performances. I felt a kind of horror at the "skill" of these 15-year-old female students. After a musical performance by an ensemble using a hodgepodge of modern and old, popular and classical instruments—guitars, violins, Korean harp, and drums—a chorus of 13 girls sang "Spring in My Native Home" with the tears falling down their cheeks.

It was only later that I learned why these girl students cried as they sang. After the performance I went outside. They followed me to the car and grabbed my hand and hung on to my arm and, clinging to me, cried, "Oh sir, let's live here together," and "Sir, please fight hard for unification." For a while they really gave me a hard time. "Why were you crying a little while ago?" I asked one of the girls. She replied, "When I thought of you and all those comrades suffering in South Korea, my eyes filled with tears." "Do I look pitiful?" I retorted, and she said, "I feel so depressed that we can't live together in the fatherland."

She kept asking me to write many good articles for the unification of the fatherland. When I visited the Kim Chong-suk Nursery, I got the same kind of shock.

This nursery, said to have opened in 1948, accommodates some 400 children ranging in age from 2 and ½ to 6 years. It is outfitted with bedrooms, playground, indoor swimming pool and dining room. There were 120 instructors, including the nursery director Yi Hyon-chu (37), supervising the children. They were all friendly and looked after them with great devotion.

The Well-Outfitted Nursery

In North Korea there are two kinds of nurseries: the "weekly nursery" for mothers who go on long business trips or mothers in special categories, such as actresses, that take care of children from Mondays to Fridays, and the "daily nurseries" which take in the children in the morning and send them home in the evening. The Kim Chong-suk Nursery is a weekly type.

Director Yi was a graduate of the political science department of the Kim Il-song University. Over and above that, she graduated from the Teachers' Correspondence College and the Nursery School Training Professional School. Her husband is a major in the army.

Director Yi said modestly that she has nothing brilliant to offer, but merely takes care of the children from the standpoint of a "honorable revolutionary." She explained that there are four large weekly nurseries like this one in Pyongyang and there are daily nurseries in neighborhood units in each district.

For the sake of the children's health, they make visitors wear a hygienic gown and slippers. I was able to take a look around the various classrooms and found that they were giving ideological education even to children who were barely able to talk. My brain reeled when I went into a classroom where about 20 tots about 3 years of age were sitting around models of buildings associated with the great leader Kim Il-song and his wife, Kim Chong-suk. They were learning history.

Pointing to one of the model buildings, the woman teacher said, "Can any of you comrades tell me what this place is and where it is?" And the little tots shoved their little right hands under their left elbows and raised them high in the air, vying with one another and shouting, "Me, me!"

The teacher pointed to one child, who stood up and correctly answered, "After the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was born..." and he went on for a couple minutes reciting a stream of words. After the child had finished his recitation, the teacher continued: "Are you little comrades happy or unhappy in the warm bosom of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—who smashed the Japanese imperialists and enabled us to live without envying anyone in the world—and the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il?" I felt my flesh crawl at this meticulous kind of education. These were mere children who would not even understand the meaning of happiness and unhappiness and were living almost every day in the nursery and memorizing what the teacher was saying.

And in another class the teacher was standing in front of a chart showing pictures of various animals and saying, "And so the great fatherly leader Comrade Kim Il-song said, 'The tiger shouted "You rascal" and scared the squirrel.'" Thus they injected Kim Il-song even into Aesop's fables. This is how they were educating the children.

"Please Take My Picture"

Leafing through the visual aids charts I saw they even had one on which was written "The American scoundrels are wolves."

At the nursery they put on the inevitable show for visitors. Four- and 5-year-olds trotted out with electric guitars, accordions, and Korean harp and put on a most amazing performance. One of the children was said to be the daughter of the popular actress Kim Son-ok.

The titles of the songs they performed were things like "The Love of the Leader" and "Let's Live in the Love of the Marshal." During the children's performance I asked the director, who was sitting beside me, "Don't you think that is a little extreme for innocent little kids? I feel that children's education that deals completely with the leader Kim Il-song might present a problem emotionally." At this the director's face flushed and she said, "For the sake of the great revolutionary task, it's necessary to thoroughly arm the children spiritually from the time they are small."

When we went down to the indoor playroom, several dozen children stopped playing and swarmed around me, pawing my camera and hanging on to my legs, asking me to take their picture. Away from their group life they were just simple and innocent children. As soon as we went outside to get in the car, the children poured out following me, grabbing my hand and shouting "goodbye" and waving their hands.

Everything was perfect—wonderful facilities, gracious teachers and nutritious food. But the children's faces kept flashing in my mind and I felt depressed all day long. The children sitting around me praising the "great leader Kim Il-song" and the little rascals grabbing my wrists and clamoring for me to take their picture weighed heavily on my mind all day. But I hoped that the unexpected criticism I had blurted out to the principal and her retort would be the starting point of a sign of change, as in the case of the hostess at the Koryo Hotel.

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[Excerpts] Every once in a while I heard that one of the biggest social problems in North Korea was the relationship between the sexes. Through a number of people I met I was able to indirectly confirm this fact, albeit in a limited way. There could be a correlation of problems between the sexes and signs of social change, and I found it unexpectedly easy to talk about these problems, because they did not touch on matters of the system and ideology, which tended to irritate the North Koreans.

They told me that extramarital affairs are called "unwholesome acts," and that although sometimes such affairs can be kept secret for a long time, quite frequently

they attract public criticism and are dealt with through a "comrades trial" (people's trials in the old days) or the legal process. Many even end in divorce.

A man in his forties, whom I met in the hotel lobby and became acquainted with, gave me his own personal view of the problems of female comrades. When I asked him what kind of problems are likely to occur between men and women, he replied, "You certainly have some weird interests. We're only human, you know. Why wouldn't there be problems like that? But extramarital affairs are not too common. And not everyone is involved."

When I used the word "yubunam" (married man) he said they did not have that term in the North. "You just really have to be skillful about being involved in an extramarital affair. But this little thing is the problem," he said, puffing up his cheeks. From what I learned, his gesture of opening his eyes wide and puffing up his cheeks was a reference to condoms. In North Korea the only contraceptive devices are diaphragms for women and condoms for men, he said. If something went wrong somehow and a pregnancy resulted, it could foul up your whole life, so contraception is the most worrisome thing. No matter what society it is, you're going to have men and women on the make, he said, so if it makes sense (?) it's going to happen. But it's out of the question for foreign tourists, he said. Then he proceeded to tell me an anecdote about a Japanese man who got kicked out of the country for doing something he shouldn't have.[passage omitted]

I was interested in finding out about the extramarital relations of single men and women, so when I visited the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital I asked a woman doctor about the problem of "unmarried mothers." She denied that it existed, saying "It's nothing to be concerned about." But the guide who accompanied me admitted, "It happens occasionally."

A Chosen Soren Korean resident in Japan in his sixties who stayed in the Koryo Hotel with me noted, "In the summer, on the banks of the Taedong River, you can frequently see young men and women on a date hugging each other or with their arms around each other's waist." He observed that North Korea was changing in a lot of ways. Another man said, "I went for a stroll in the park during the summer and came across a condom."

This suggests that in North Korea, where there is no suitable place for young people to be alone, they choose the secluded park.

A professor I met in Seoul after returning home said, "From various studies of North Korean women we know for certain about instances where North Korean party cadres fool around with married women and cause a scandal." He said that such continual unwholesome acts are one of the most severe social problems facing North Korea today.

"North Korean citizens have no particular amusements and no entertainment besides the movies and plays provided unilaterally by the party, so sexual diversions are chronic," the professor said. The unfamiliar phenomena of openness are exacerbating this and, as a matter of fact, the problem of unmarried mothers and illegitimate children is severe, he added.

Nor is this the only kind of problem. I also learned that husband-wife conflicts were gradually surfacing. When I asked people I met in Pyongyang, "What are the main reasons for domestic quarrels?" the unanimous answer was: "Generally it starts because of the laziness of the men." Even though both husband and wife have jobs, the wife in addition assumes responsibility for all the onerous chores, beginning with taking the children to the nursery. The wife gets up in the morning and makes the rice and after taking care of her husband and children she goes to work. And after work is finished she picks up the children from the nursery. Not only does she have to do the marketing and the laundry, but she even has to do chores her husband should do such as hammering nails and the like. The attitude of the men is, "What's so strange about that?"—as if this kind of behavior pattern has become the natural way of life.

"Giving first priority to serving their husbands rather than their mothers- and fathers-in-law is the rule here," said Choe Hyong-mu (42), who accompanied me as a guide.

He boasted that the women regard their husbands as gods and tend to their every need, and that's the way it is done here. "When the women are doing something that's just too hard for them, the men don't even lift a finger to help. So they argue about it," said Choe. [passage omitted] While I was in North Korea they had about 3 centimeters of snow in Pyongyang, and I witnessed for myself that the ones shoveling the snow away from the front of the houses were usually women.

In North Korea there are some pretty obscene sex jokes that only the men tell among themselves. The expression they use is "lewd stories," and the subjects are much the same as in South Korea.

Besides this, there are many other "lewd stories" describing sexual relations between men and women. These are less graphic, and even unmarried women do not shrink from telling these.

Once a hostess asked me, "How many children do you have?" and I replied that, unfortunately, I had only three daughters. She giggled and then quipped, "Looks like you don't have enough stamina. You should fortify yourself with some Koryo ginseng and give it another try."

When I asked her what qualifications a bridegroom should have, she explained: First of all social position (party member or someone with a military background); second, health; and third, personality. Then in a strong

Pyongyang dialect she explained: "Whatever his social position might be, you can only be happy if the bridegroom is healthy and won't die on you early, you know." [passage omitted]

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It can be seen that North Korea's interest in an open society has been greatly influenced by China. I met Kim Yol-ha (62), a Chosen Soren Korean resident in Japan, while waiting in the Beijing airport as a result of the delayed departure of the China Civil Airlines plane for Pyongyang. He was a big help in enabling me to understand today's North Korea. Kim—who has set up a joint venture in North Korea with some 200 North Korean employees—reports that because North Korean young people's thinking is so progressive nowadays, there are frequently frictions with the older generation.

Stiff Resistance From the Military

Kim says he has learned something of the way North Korean young people think and act through his son, who took charge of the North Korean joint venture after studying in the United States.

In particular, he says, young members of the North Korean elite who have studied in Beijing have seen China's opening up with their own eyes. When they return to North Korea they say, "China has begun to accumulate economic wealth after introducing an open society through Hong Kong. We've done so much since the war, so shouldn't we live the good life, too?"

Sometimes, Kim says, clashes of opinion with the old generation arise. "The North Korean authorities have been driving the people too hard," Kim says, and right now is an excellent opportunity to throw the doors wide open. Kim could not suppress his surprise when I told him of my emotions at being the first South Korean reporter to set foot in North Korea. He said: "Recently North Korea has been opening its doors and expanding joint ventures with the East European bloc, Australia and Japan." And, he added, if North Korea is really going to open up, it has to let more South Korea-affiliated persons into the country.

In the lobby of the Koryo Hotel I met a high ranking North Korean officer wearing the insignia of a senior colonel. His comments support Kim's remarks. "Young people who never experienced the war are going around recklessly yelling about opening up," he asserted, "and when we look toward the future, this is a serious matter." Upon learning that I was a Korean-American who was visiting North Korea for the first time in 40 years, the officer said excitedly: "There's not a single person in our population of 20 million who did not lose a family member in the war. There's not a thing to be gained from talking to the South Korean bastards, but the young people are going off half-cocked without knowing what the world is all about. This is a serious situation."

The big-wheel Chosen Soren businessman Chon Chinsik also spoke comparatively frankly about the reality facing North Korea today.

Dollars Needed More Than Rubles

Chon—who holds the titles of North Korean vice minister of external economic affairs and vice chairman of the Chosen Soren Joint Venture Promotion Committee—set forth the premise that: "There isn't any reason why our (North Korean) Government can't conduct business with capitalism, and in this regard all the preparations have already been made."

He said that now the time has come when they need U.S. dollars more than Soviet rubles in order to penetrate international markets. Since Kim Il-song's instruction of 26 February 1986 concerning joint ventures, contracts equivalent to some \$170 million (U.S.) have already been concluded with 54 firms owned by Korean residents in Japan, and preparations have been made to set up a joint venture bank in Pyongyang with capital equivalent to \$200 million (U.S.), according to Chon.

North Korea's joint venture law—which calls for 50-50 joint operations in principle—still prohibits direct trade with South Korean businesses, but Chon says he believes that in the near future relations will improve.

Chon denies widespread rumors that the chairman of big South Korean enterprises have visited North Korea or that they have plans to do so. He says that they will always welcome three-way joint ventures through Korean-Americans, but that North Korea is not in a position to have direct business dealings.

Products being produced by North Korean joint ventures with Korean residents in Japan are mostly in the light industry sector, he told me, and the manufacturing fields of fibers, textiles, garments, umbrellas, shoes, and luggage and agricultural and native products, and marine products (brown seaweed, kelp, dried fish products, and sea urchin roe) are progressing briskly. This year 400 tons of pine mushrooms were gathered, and the entire amount was exported. But in the future, in principle, the entire production of any joint ventures will be used for domestic consumption, Chon revealed.

When he met recently with Kim Il-song, Chon said, "He instructed to the effect that we should be trading with our South Korean comrades, but it seems that our people are not yet ready."

Chon's attitude was positive: "Let's wait and see."

"Too Soon for Trade With South"

I held several interviews with high ranking officials concerned, but they said that [trade with the South] was premature.

Unlike ordinary citizens, North Korean officials will admit, "I won't try to hide the fact that we are still poor and have a hard life." They say, however, the development of Pyongyang and other cities is now in the final stages and there are no more plans for excessive construction in the future. "Now the time has come when we, too, have to share the wealth," they say.

Choe Hyong-mu, my guide throughout my stay in the North, prefaced his remarks by saying that he understands the situation outside because he himself served as a diplomat in places such as Australia and Africa. "It's plain as day that our fatherland is going to have a good life in the future too," he asserted.

In the past, until the 1970's, North Korea appears to have been making war preparations by such things as digging a tunnel 100 meters under the ground and building a subway that can also be used as a bomb-shelter. But now they are worried about external appearances as seen by their constructing above the ground a 105-story mammoth hotel and the Nungna Stadium, which can accommodate 150,000 persons.

From outward appearances, at least, one gets the impression that they might have revised the policy for reunification by armed force that they have been advocating.

But it is hard to know their real intentions and, indeed, it is not something that should be judged lightly.

I was given a rough time when at a formal gathering I tossed out a question concerning the directions of the Korean peninsula after the death of Kim Il-song. I was admonished for even uttering the words "after the death of the leader Kim Il-song." And when I asked the guide at the International Friendship Museum, "Who will be the successor after the death of the leader Kim Il-song?" she angrily replied: "Why would the great fatherly leader Kim Il-song die? Don't you even speak of such a thing." Kim Il-song is so much regarded as the absolute being—a god-like entity—that my remark infuriated that young lady who had been giving her explanations in such a cheerful voice.

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Night and Day in Pyongyang Have Different Faces.

As the expression "model city" suggests, Pyongyang with its well-arranged urban districts in the center of the city and orderly queues of citizens is very impressive. But as darkness covers Pyongyang—as with any other city—it takes on the appearance of a place people actually live.

Because of the campaign to conserve electricity, some American reporters have compared the darkened Pyongyang night streets to a "haunted house." But that is only the Pyongyang one sees looking out from the windows of a hotel.

Perhaps because of that perception—even though no one told them not to go out at night—it is the custom for most visitors just to use the bar or discotheque operated by the hotel and refrain from going outside of their own accord. But I slipped out of the hotel without my guide and stepped into the night streets of Pyongyang. I was filled with tension and trepidation. I had a vague feeling that when they issued me a visa as the first South Korean reporter, they must have had some measures to deal with this kind of situation. But my apprehension soon changed to boldness.

In Pyongyang, where there is not a single traffic light, women traffic controllers armed with a signal torch resembling a flashlight direct traffic until 2300. Besides the long signal torch in their hands, they wear a red-blinking light device between their shoulders and their waist. From a distance they look not like persons, but robots.

The people passing by on the night streets can be roughly divided into workers who were going home after work or hurrying to get to their night jobs, families out for a stroll, couples on a date, and drunks.

A young couple was walking arm in arm in the snow, which just happened to be falling. Apparently making plans for their marriage, their conversation went: "Let's do it next spring when my younger brother comes back from the army." "How about winter? Let's hurry up and do it."

The atmosphere was too serious for me to inject myself into, but I butted in nevertheless. "I'm an overseas Korean from the United States," I said.

"Oh, is that so? How long has it been since you were last in the fatherland?"

"It's my first time here," I replied.

"How come you never came before now?"

"Even though I wanted to, they wouldn't let me, so I couldn't come."

"Can that be? Our fatherland is developing an openness like this under the energetic guidance of the great fatherly leader and is letting any compatriot pay a proud visit here."

That same kind of comment came out whenever people opened their mouths—anytime, anywhere—and it flowed easily from the mouths of these lovers.

"What relation are you to each other?" At this question they simply gazed at each other and did not give a reply.

"I've heard that Pyongyang is a scary city," I said. "Do you think it's all right to walk around like this by myself?"

"It's okay. Go anywhere you like. Those South Korean scoundrels put out vicious propaganda about us, and if you believe it, there's nothing like seeing for yourself." The word Pyongyang citizens used most frequently was "Il opsumnida." It is applied in a positive sense with the meaning of "That's all right," as well as the negative sense of "That's not so."

I left the lovers and walked on. I soon came across two drunks urinating against a wall in an alleyway and having an argument. "You SOB! You're a louse." "Why do you keep saying I'm a louse?" "Then tell me who it was that ratted to the team leader." Apparently they were on their way home after having a drink because of some grievance at work. I thought about taking a picture of them urinating, but could not bring myself to do it.

On the night streets of Pyongyang I noticed more drunks than I had expected. I saw two other drunks weaving, arm in arm, down the street. One of them collapsed as he went down to an underpass and lay there vomiting. Even though his clothes were filthy, his friend was patting him on the back. Seeing this expression of friendship I felt a lump in my throat.

I approached the drunken worker who had fallen down and vomited and was lying there in misery and patted him on the back. I thought it might surprise them if I spoke in Seoul dialect, so I stuck on the word "comrade." "Where do you live, comrades?" I asked.

I immediately regretted butting in. The worker who had been patting his drunken friend on the back got up, flustered, and said, "It's all right, tongji [comrade]. I'll get my buddy on his feet and we'll be on our way."

In North Korea they use the word tongmu [comrade] to people of the same class or of lower status, and the word tongji, also meaning comrade, to party cadre or superiors. And when it was necessary to use honorific speech to one's elders or another party, they used the title sonsaeng [teacher or sir]. Apparently people in Western suits were assumed to be party cadre.

I did not know what circumstances or what pent-up anger might have driven them to get so drunk, and I regretted that I had needlessly intruded and spoiled their mood. "I'm an overseas compatriot here on a visit. Don't be alarmed, comrades. Please don't feel you have to be in a hurry," I said, trying to allay their fears.

Just then a uniformed public safety officer (policeman) approached and started to question me. "Where are you from?" he asked. "I'm a Korean-American." "What are you doing here?" "Well, this comrade fell down and I was helping him." "Why are you going around carrying a camera?" Suddenly I couldn't think of anything to say.

After verifying that I was a tourist, the policeman began to chastise the drunks. "Comrades, don't sully the image of the fatherland. You shouldn't drink so much that you

get drunk. What are you doing? Hurry up and get up and go home." During the policeman's tongue-lashing, the drunk who had fallen down on the steps kept vomiting. Apparently it was not against the law, because they were not taken into custody. It happened on my very first night after my arrival in Pyongyang and it was the first time I wept.

I returned to the hotel and watched the foreign tourists dancing in the basement discotheque. Then after sending the draft of my first article to my paper I went to bed, but could not fall asleep until 2 in the morning. Jet lag—with day and night switched—was partly to blame, but more than that, it was because I kept seeing the images of those workers who were suffering in their drunkenness and the foreign visitors enjoying themselves at the hotel discotheque.

[24 Dec 88 p 5]

North Koreans Are Too Ignorant of South Korea.

The younger they are, the more they have been filled with a distorted education and firmly believe that "we must liberate the South Korean people from the United States as soon as possible."

In addition, no matter what country in the world they compare themselves with, they think that the North Korean people live well and are in no way inferior to any other country. But when I met and talked with young North Koreans—unable to have contacts with the outside and having grown up and been educated under an unbalanced educational system—I could read signs of discord in their eyes.

It was on 10 December, my second day in Pyongyang, when my guide and I dropped in to the giant Chongnyugwan Restaurant.

"Do They Even Sing About Love?"

We were eating in one of the special rooms when we heard the sound of a guitar coming from somewhere. Stepping outside the room to see what it was, I found the music was coming from down the corridor near the kitchen. There, six or seven waitresses were gathered, taking a break together.

They were very congenial and as they strummed the guitar and chatted, one of the girls turned to me and asked: "Have you travelled to a lot of countries around the world? If so, have you ever seen a country as beautiful as ours and one where people enjoy such a good life?" The girl—her name was Kang Song-hui—spoke of the inevitable "great leader Comrade Kim Il-song," and believed that everyone in North Korea was equally well off and that it was a paradise on earth. "When I think of those unclothed, starving South Korean people, it makes my heart sore," she said.

Acceding to my request, she played the guitar and sang a song for me. "The snow falls from the night skies. Oh, snowflakes falling from the silent night skies. Each warm snowflake lights upon my breast...." The song Miss Kang sang was a ballad with a very sentimental melody. To it were tacked lyrics about "the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il." As soon as Miss Kang began to play the intro, all the other waitresses joined in song in a very natural way.

Then, at their request, I reluctantly sang as my favorite song Yang Hui-un's "One Person." The lyrics of the song went, "In years to come, we'll clasp each other's outstretched hand and smile...." One of the girls who heard the song asked, "Is that a song about No Tae-u?" "It's a song about the hopeless love of two lovers," I said. They thought this was novel and continued to question me. "Love is a personal thing. You mean the people in South Korea sing about it in songs?" "You mean they don't have any independent thought, but go around singing about love? Isn't that an American song?" And their expressions told me that this was something inconceivable in their world.

Movies Distort South Korea

This conversation with the young girls—at the expense of missing my meal—made me think about a lot of things. I felt certain that in this society where the only thing they ever heard of or learned is "the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song" and "paradise on earth," if even the slightest ripples of an open society rise up or if the gentle breeze of an open society even brushes them, they will never be able to stop the change!

As I mentioned before, North Koreans are now having love marriages and expressing individualistic love. But there are no songs that sing of the experience of love. They probably know the pain of a broken heart, but no one has heard a song that describes that pain. The song "One Person" that I sang.... Their surprised expression at the lyrics.... Outwardly they rejected it as if to say they could not understand it, but they showed great interest.

We went by train to visit Kaechon District in Kujang County, North Pyongan Province, 4 hours away. A student I met there, a boy named Cho (21), was the same way. I happened to be watching television with him—a movie called "Mother's Wish," which was a movie version of an espionage case involving a Korean resident from Japan. This movie costarred popular North Korean actors Kang Yo-son, Kim Chol, and Pak Kum-sil and Chosen Soren actors. It had been made 2 years before and was said to be a big hit.

North Korean people, too, have a tremendous interest in actors, singers, announcers, and other performers. When I asked Cho the names of the starring players, he rattled off in detail where they were from, their hit movies, when they made their debuts, their family relations, and the like.

22 March 1989

The movie "Mother's Wish" distorted South Korean society terribly. Even seeing the content of the film—which showed young people with the American flag wrapped around their neck running wild and American soldiers trifling with married women on the streets—embarrassed me. There was even one scene depicting torture by fire using a welding machine.

Watching the movie with me, Cho got excited every time there were brutal scenes. "How can they do such things? Those animals!" Whenever there was a scene where American soldiers or officials were bullying ordinary Korean citizens, Cho would yell. "Student," I said, "the scenes in that movie are not really true to life. South Korea is not like that."

For an hour and a half, while the movie continued, Cho and I chatted. He could not calm down, but, at length, as though accepting my arguments somewhat, he said, "Movies are art, aren't they?" and seemed to be reconsidering his prejudiced ideas.

I got the same kind of reaction from a student named Kim (22) whom I met at the fountain in front of the Mansudae Art Theater in Pyongyang.

"You had a rough time holding the Olympics without the help of our fatherland, didn't you?" he said. Kim thought South Korea was a terrible place.

No Fire Departments in Pyongyang

"I remember a North Korean reporter who visited Seoul to cover the "search for separated families," Kim said. "He was on television and described the plight of our compatriots in the South—how sick South Korean people can't get proper medical care and go around clutching their bellies because they can't eat regularly. I heard him with my own ears."

In a conversation with my number two guide (a person other than Choe Hyong-mu)—who was acknowledged to be a cut above the others—I was able to understand just how ignorant North Koreans are about the real situation in the South.

"Let's say there's a fire in a South Korean apartment," he said. "Who puts out the fire?" "They call out the fire trucks to extinguish it," I replied. "Then you mean the people just stand around and watch?" "If the fire truck comes and pumps water on the fire you can extinguish it easier than by the efforts of ordinary citizens," I said.

"The people in the fatherland band together with one heart and put out the fire themselves. So we don't even need taxes or fire engines. Who needs taxes to put out fires?"

Come to think of it, I had gone around to a lot of places, but I can't remember seeing any fire stations in Pyongyang.

Even in the most insignificant, minor things they believed that South Korea is a hell and North Korea is a paradise on earth where life is better than any place on earth. Therefore, although they are always parroting "reunification" they always link reunification with "saving the people of South Korea."

From middle school students to the older generations, whenever I met North Koreans they pleaded for reunification and when I left them they pleaded for reunification. And their entreaties were sincere and profound. "Sir, I firmly believe that when you go back you will fight with all your strength for the reunification of the fatherland." "Sir, please write many good articles about the reunification of the fatherland." I returned having heard such farewells countless times.

[26 Dec 88 p 5]

The tour itinerary that North Korean authorities show visitors to Pyongyang is fixed. In addition to the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital—a general hospital for pregnant women, which is said to be comparable to any place one can name—there is the People's Great Hall of Learning, which is in the nature of a state central library, a nursery, the Chuche Tower, the Korean Historical Museum, the subway, and the Mansudae Artistic Creation Group.

Recently, churches and cathedrals have been included. My conclusion, after personally going out and gathering material for this article, is that these are "religious groups hurriedly created to blot out the disgrace of the closed society."

I felt, however, that the important thing was the reality and atmosphere of the North in which the authorities anticipated censure over the issue of freedom of religion and had no choice but to go along with the trend.

When I visited, together with our guides, the Pongsu Church located on a hill in the redeveloped district of Pongsu-dong (now Konguk-dong), Reverend Ko Ki-chun (67), secretary of the central committee of the Korean Christian League, met me personally.

When I asked him where he went to theological seminary and where he was ordained, he replied, "At the Pyongyang Theological Seminary." Although I felt it might be a little disrespectful to the aged pastor of nearly 70, I nonetheless led him inside the church up to the pulpit and asked him to say a prayer. "Please pray by yourself," he said, making every effort to decline.

I asked him to pray because I judged that here in North Korea where the deification and idolization of Kim Il-song had been made official dogma, it was not logical that he could serve an omniscient, omnipotent God who was superior to Kim Il-song. Even more, however, it was because I was curious as to whether religious activities that excluded Kim Il-song were even possible. (As a

matter of fact, in the corridor of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital there hung a sign reading, "Let us behave toward the great comrade leader with a spirit of deification.")

Turning to the other members of the party I blurted out, "The Reverend Ko is going to lead us in a prayer." As he started the prayer his voice trembled and his hands shook slightly as he clasped them in prayer. Unlike in South Korean churches where they use the words, "beseech," and "beg" in prayers, he used the word "request." But he did not use the expression "great comrade leader" and he did end the prayer with the expression "We unworthy sinners pray in the name of Jesus Christ.... "

There was no cross on the outside of the church building, but there was one hanging on the wall behind the pulpit. And I noticed two butterfly-net contrivances which are commonly used to collect the offering.

Our three guides stood in the doorway of the church smoking cigarettes, but Reverend Ko didn't try to stop them.

Sixty Percent of Believers Are Women

His title of "secretary general" turned me off and I could not shake off the impression that this was a subsidiary organ of the party. I deliberately badgered Reverend Ko into bringing out his personal Bible and hymnal and open it up.

Scrutinizing the words of the hymns, I found that the word "Satan" had been changed throughout to "enemy" [wonssu]. In North Korea, I recalled, Kim Il-song was called "Marshal" [wonsu] and the enemy was called [wonssu], and since the United States was commonly referred to as the enemy, the concept of wonssu or enemy is immediately associated with the United States. To me the interpretation of the words of the hymn was: "May God smash the United States."

"Every week 120 church members attend Sunday services and I am now preparing for our first-ever Christmas events," Rev Ko Ki-chun said.

He explained further: "In the future we plan to build a branch church but in the meanwhile I hold services in private homes. About 10 persons attend each of these services. Also, we're building a sanctuary that will accommodate 300 persons, but the heating fixtures aren't ready yet so we haven't been able to hold the dedication ceremonies"

The believers are in their forties and fifties, and 60 percent are women, he said. He said they do not have a church choir or Sunday School and although there was a piano, they did not have an accompanist so the congregation sang hymns to a music tape. "In South Korean

country churches they have very moving church services without musical accompaniment, but here you have a karaoke style service," I mumbled.

Then I remembered the etymology of the word "karaoke" [from the Japanese meaning "empty tub"]. Then I thought, "Even though the services may well be held by churchgoers mobilized in a church building that was created as a gesture of openness, it's better than nothing."

And I slipped out of there with a heavy heart, recalling the passage from the Bible that said: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20)

None of the many people I met in Pyongyang knew that a church had been built, and when we went there that day, the bus driver, who was under the General Bureau of Tourism, could not even find it and got lost. As it turned out, the church was located in an isolated spot on top of a hill in a redeveloped area of the city.

We also went to a Catholic cathedral. Our guide was Mun Chang-hak, chairman of the Korea Catholic Laymen's Council. He had been baptized as an infant in the Sinuiju Cathedral before the liberation but had not received confirmation. "We don't have a priest in charge yet, but we have masses at 2100, 2200, and 2300 attended by 60-70 believers, he said.

It was the same at the Pohyon-sa [temple] at Myohyang-san, 4 hours from Pyongyang by special pullman. Pohyon-sa is one of the five most famous Buddhist temples in North and South Korea—the others are Yugo-sa at Kumgangsan, Haein-sa at Hyopchon, Hwayon-sa at Kurye, and Tongdo-sa at Yangsan. At this temple my guide, a young girl who said she had majored in history at Sinuiju Teachers College, told me there were seven monks in all—the head priest and lecturers—but they all had left the temple to go to a meeting.

As I looked around the compound, I did not see a single person. But there were stone monuments which bore obvious scars of battle in the wars. The gravestone of the great Buddhist saint Sosan-taesa was there. It had been set up in 1712. I passed Chogye Gate, Haetal Gate, and Chonwang Gate and reached Taeung Temple. In front of Taeung Temple there were only the 104 ornamental bells hanging from the eight-sided, 12-story stone pagoda, fluttering and crying in the early winter wind.

In North Korea they call them "wind-bells" [because they tinkle when the wind blows].

Over 300 Monks

"Nationwide there about 10,000 Buddhists and some 1,500 of them belong to Pohyon-sa," our 22-year-old guide was saying. She explained that there were over 300 Buddhist monks—graduates of the Yanggang Province Buddhist College—and they take care of the country's temples.

The guide merely gave a historical explanation of Pohyon-sa—worthy of a student of history—but she did not know whether Pohyon-sa was a Zen temple or a Sutra temple. Nor could she answer my question as to the background of why Sosan-taesha, the founder of Pohyon-sa, selected Priest Pyonyang as his successor instead of Samyong-taesha.

"The reason Sosan-taesha passed over Samyong-taesha—who had been considered his favorite pupil—and chose the Priest Pyonyang as his successor was that Samyong-taesha [who was a monk soldier during the Imjin Wars] had taken many lives," I explained to our guide. She just stared at me as if that were something strange.

[27 Dec 88 p 5]

It has been disclosed that over 2,000 Korean Americans have officially or unofficially visited North Korea so far.

According to statistics provided by North Korean officials, from the early 1960's until last year about 1,500 Korean-Americans had visited North Korea—scholars attending various academic meetings and persons visiting their families. With the exception of air fare, North Korea has borne all expenses incurred during the Korean-Americans' stay in the North, giving them tours of the city and entertaining them cordially.

Visitors to Pyongyang Number 2,000

Actually, up until only 1 year ago visiting North Korea was regarded as extremely dangerous. This was because visitors feared they would come under the sharp scrutiny of the South Korean Government and themselves be regarded as "hostile elements," not to mention the physical danger.

This year, however, simultaneous with President No Tae-u's 7 July declaration, North Korea started to promote tourism. Now, Korean residents who wish to go to North Korea as tourists or on business no longer need a formal invitation or the pretext of a family reunion, and there has been a steady stream of Korean-Americans desiring to make the visit.

Therefore, the North Korean side has completely overhauled its policy of generosity and is now making travelers bear all the expenses themselves while in North Korea. On my news-gathering trip to North Korea I was no exception. I had to pay a total of \$2,785 (1.9 million won in South Korean currency) for 6 days and 5 nights in North Korea. That included air fare, hotel, meals, guides, and transportation. That represented airfare plus \$110 a day for a high class hotel, meals, and guide.

To cope with the sudden rush of Korean-Americans wanting to visit North Korea, the government set up an "America Bureau" in the Choson Koryo Tourist Agency

(on the level of a tourism corporation) subordinate to the General Bureau of Tourism of the Ministry of External Economic Affairs and is promoting various tourism development projects.

"In the future, tourist travel to North Korea will be approved across the board for Korean residents in the Americas. We will accept people without any preconditions whatsoever," said Kim Tong-hwa, vice president of Choson Koryo Travel Agency.

"In 1989 we're attracting a Korean-American purchasing mission and even a friendship golf travel group." Kim said the only 18-hole golf course in Pyongyang will be made available to these tourists.

When I asked whether this series of measures toward Korean-Americans could be regarded as a prelude to a North Korea open-door policy, Kim laughed heartily and riposted, "Our fatherland has always had the door open, but hasn't it been the South Koreans who have been preventing people from even meeting their family members [in the North] by claiming it's against the anti-Communist law?"

Officials Are Unflappable

"Mr Editor, in the old days you would have been a communist sympathizer," he again guffawed. "Then how come you didn't give me a visa until now? I applied a year and a half ago," I shot back.

"Must have been an administrative delay," he answered. Perhaps because he felt his answer left something to be desired, he added: "As a matter of fact, we don't care too much for reporters. Wherever one goes, one finds the good and the bad. But when reporters are here in the North they say everything is just great, then they go back home and write a bunch of nonsense, so who likes them? We just wanted to see how capable you are. Write about everything you see. Even about things that aren't good. But write about the good things you see, too." Every North Korean official I met was broadminded and unflappable.

Although I had been apprehensive when I first stepped foot on North Korean soil, as time passed I became more at ease, and even went so far as to recklessly ask questions that went beyond the "danger level." But the officials fielded them all. I tossed out a number of embarrassing questions: "Where is the Aoji coal mine?" "Are you bugging this conversation?" "What do you think of the spies you send to South Korea?" "Do you still have the star-gazing movement and the 1,000-shovelful movement?"

But they took it all in stride and did not get angry.

Can't Use "Pukhan"

We took the 120-meter-long escalator and I saw the subway platform was wide and magnificent and sumptuous. "Our soldiers built it in a short period of time with a speed battle," my guide boasted. "I'm really amazed," I replied.

"But, seeing this, no matter how you deny it, I'm convinced that the North did dig those tunnels along the frontlines. You appear to be digging toward South Korea using the technology you perfected while building the subway. Are you sure you aren't trying to dig a hole clear to city hall right smack in the center of Seoul?" I joked. But he just laughed and did not get ruffled. A member of our tour group poked me in the ribs. Apparently he thought I had gone too far.

But since I had already gone that far, I continued: "As part of your unification strategy, you seem to have dug the subway deep to prepare against a nuclear war, but do you really think there's a possibility that war will break out?" I asked.

"I don't think there's going to be a war now," said Mr Choe, my guide.

During my week in Pyongyang, the only times officials got angry or drew the line was when I asked what will happen after Kim Il-song dies and when I had them write "Pukhan" [North Korea] on a souvenir during my stay at the Hyangsan Hotel at Myohyangsan.

It was at the Hyangsan Hotel, a hotel so ultra-luxurious it even had a revolving skylounge. I had bought a piece of artwork by a "comrade salesperson," Miss Yi Hyon-hui (23), who was recognized as having an outstanding talent in Oriental painting, and I asked her to write on it "Souvenir of visit to Pukhan [North Korea]." Later when my guide saw it, it really hit the fan. "This is Choson," he said. "On occasion when we want to make a distinction, we'll concede to using the expression 'North Choson,' but you can't use Hanguk [Republic of Korea], Pukhan [North Korea] or Namhan [South Korea]." Finally that painting was disposed of and Miss Yi rewrote the inscription as "Souvenir of Visit to the Fatherland." From the beginning Miss Yi had trembled at the word "Pukhan" and refused to write it. But I insisted, saying, "I'm going to take it back to the United States, and our fatherland is called 'Hanguk,' and the word 'fatherland' just doesn't convey that." And that's how it happened. I still feel sorry about that episode. I feel despondent and wonder whether that innocent, friendly, pretty Miss Yi was censured because of that incident.

[28 Dec 88 p 5]

In North Korea too they have a TV talent contest.

Amid the applause of the judges panel and the audience, an amateur singer—a member of the Speed Battle Young Women's Education College—stepped out on the stage. Using gestures, she sang, "10 million ri following the leader, 10 million ri following our party." Apparently a brand new song in North Korea, it is often played on radio and television. Even the driver of the Nissan at Myohyangsan was listening to it on a cassette tape. It had a lovely melody. The chime sounded with a "ding" and the caption "eliminated" flashed on the screen. The audience exploded with laughter.

It was the same atmosphere as the [South Korean] KBS-TV [Korean Broadcast System] audience-participation shows of the late 1960's.

The smartly dressed MC was Chon Hyon-ku, the anchor-man on the Pyongyang TV "6 O'clock News." "You've got a good voice and good aesthetic sense, and you sang with a resonance and flair. But you didn't make the meaning of the lyrics come alive, so you were eliminated." The judges' critique was interesting.

Next, some male performers sang as their "designated" song "Land and the Soldier," accompanying themselves on a guitar and accordion. They looked like good natured young men, and they sang with passion and broad smiles. "Soaked in the cold rain, soaked in the sleet, he protected the fatherland. And he guarded the night. And he sacrificed his youth saying 'Let's not lose my fatherland again.' Ah it was paid for so dearly, this land that he protected at such a high cost."

The melody was just as sad as the words, this song that told of the spirit of a man killed in battle. North Korea has three television stations: the Pyongyang Choson Television, Pyongyang Central Television, and Kaesong Television. On weekdays they broadcast from 1800 until 2300 daily and all day long on Saturdays and Sundays.

After sign-on at 1800 they broadcast the news, weather, animal stories, and the like. This is followed by musical requests. The "6 O'clock News" is presented by the male-female anchor team of Chon Hyong-ku and Yi Chu-hui. I was amazed at how they delivered the news in such screaming, loud voices. After shouting revolutionary slogans such as "All forward to the speed battle," they presented to the audience news about the compassion of Kim Il-song and his son, then went directly to news about South Korea. Citing and quoting primarily Seoul dailies, the Pyongyang Television Station gave news of Paektam-sa [TN: the Buddhist temple where Chon Tu-hwan has gone into seclusion] and the National Assembly hearings. Sometimes they also dressed it up with commentaries.

There are no FM radio stations, but they have three AM stations, and their programming is similar to that of the television stations.

Newspapers include NODONG SINMUN, PYONGHWA SINMUN, and MINJU CHOSON, but people mostly subscribe to NODONG SINMUN. NODONG SINMUN is published daily in six pages, of which one page is devoted entirely to "South Korean news."

Because they get their news of South Korea from such standardized news reports, the North Korean people are unable to understand the real situation in the South. But news about Paektam-sa and the National Assembly hearings—which are needed for political and ideological education—is quickly reported. And they even make jokes giving sly digs at these events. To someone who does not immediately do as he is instructed they will joke: "Hey. You wanna get sent to Paektam-sa?" And they will make jokes about baldheaded men, an allusion to the situation in South Korea.

One night I went to the Pyongyang Circus. A man who was known as the world's best magician—he had won the top prize seven times at international magic competitions—came out and put on a wonderful magic show.

Afterwards, during the intermission, there was a comedy skit. This comedy routine, which described a backalley in South Korea, was filled with political propaganda like the following, which uses a play on words. A man comes out with a drum strapped on his shoulders and says, "It's filthy. I just can't live here in Seoul. They say North Korea [ibuk] is nice." Then he is caught by the police and tells the police officer, "I wasn't praising North Korea [ibuk]. I was only saying that this drum [ibuk] on my shoulder is nice."

Also, on several occasions I was going around taking pictures and gathering material for my article acting like a North Korean big shot, when I was stopped by security officials. But I cured that by "braggadocio," and the problem never lasted more than a moment.

In Pyongyang I had collared a worker and was interviewing him when a plainclothes security officer began to question me. I shouted at him: "Comrade, where are you assigned?" and took out my notepad as though to write it down. At this, he slowly backed off. Also once I slipped out of the hotel and was taking a picture of a soldier on his way to work and I was again caught. But I immediately yelled "What's the big deal? It's a good picture, and I want to take it," and sent the policeman on his way.

When I passed this story to [North Korean defector] Kim Man-chol in Seoul, he said: "That's North Korean society. When someone in a nice-looking suit yells at you, you're supposed to be afraid." We both laughed.

On my last day I cleared the final hurdle when I bluffed my way through at the baggage inspection counter at Pyongyang's Sunan Airport. Since I planned to travel to Seoul by way of Beijing, I had some South Korean currency in my hand baggage, and I got caught. I felt a

little uneasy when it occurred to me that if you carried a large sum of South Korean money on a visit to Pyongyang, they could charge you with espionage and take the money and you couldn't say a word. But I bluffed it out: "I'm carrying my own money. Is that a problem in North Korea? Call someone in authority!" And I just managed to avoid a crisis and board the airplane.

The North Korea I saw still has many homogeneous elements in common with South Korea. There were times when, because of differences in vocabulary, I felt flustered—they call lettuce "puru"; dogmeat soup is called "sweet meat cuisine;" and hwaktap [definite answer] is called tambo [guarantee]; kylchong hapsida [let's decide] is chojik hapsida ["let's organize"], and when something is cheap, they use the word "nukta."

But there were many episodes where it suddenly occurred to me: "We are indeed the same nation with the same blood flowing in our veins!" When I saw an elderly grandmother-type in a department store returning a pair of shoes because she didn't like them, and when I came across a woman in a music store fingering a violin and worrying about her children's artistic education, I felt a strange lump in my throat. When I saw young North Korean women who wanted to wear long boots with high heels, and observed their habit of blowing the strands of hair from their face, and when I saw the long hairstyle of men that was the fashion, this demonstrated to me, time after time, the face of human beings who have a common desire to look nice and live comfortably.

But in conversations based on ideology, they were still foreigners who had many obstacles to overcome.

**Korean-American Paper Interviews CPRF Leader
SK2003120089 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
16 Mar 89 P 5**

[Interview with Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of the Committee of the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, CPRF, by An Tong-il, reporter of "NEW YORK SEGYE ILBO," a Korean newspaper in New York, on 12 February in Pyongyang]

[Text] [An Tong-il] People say that the supreme principle for reunification that North Korea has adhered to is the principle for reunification by making South Korea communist. What do you think?

[Chon Kum-chol] National reunification is the primary problem of the nation, to unite the divided nation into one and to achieve national independence. Therefore, the so-called principle for reunification through communization, which forces a specific political system, cannot become our official reunification principle at the present time. We have clarified the three principles for reunification in the past. They are the principles of independence, peace, and great national unity.

[An] What is North Korea's reunification policy and the task for realization of the policy?

[Chon] The most urgent problem is the alleviation of tension in Korea. People say that there is the threat of a southward or of a northward invasion. This is because we have failed to alleviate tension. As far as I know, there is no threat of southward invasion. The evidence proving is that, first of all, our side has declared at the government level its intention not to invade the South, and second, our side has put forward peace proposals, including arms reduction overtures. In fact, we have no capability of invading the South independently. We have no Soviet or Chinese army. We have no nuclear weapons. Invading the South means triggering a nuclear war which will bring about national ruin. Therefore, it is inconceivable. Nevertheless, the United States has not only dragged nuclear weapons into South Korea, but has also staged the "Team Spirit" military exercise. If the two sides have no intention of invading each other, they should reduce their arms to the extent that they cannot trigger a war even if they attempt to do so. As a preparatory step for arms reduction, a peace agreement should be concluded between the United States and the North and a nonaggression declaration should be adopted between the North and South.

[An] What do you think of North-South economic exchange and North-South economic cooperation, which have recently aroused great interest in the North and South?

[Chon] In this problem, one side insists on economic "exchange" and the other on economic "trade." Economic "trade" is conducted between states. Therefore, conducting economic exchange in the form of "trade" implies that the North and South are two separate countries is an established fact. This is why we have emphasized "collaboration" in the problem of North-South economic cooperation. North-South economic collaboration has a symbolic meaning and effectiveness because the word "collaboration" means pooling the nation's strength to achieve national reunification.

[An] What is the North's reunification policy? Would you explain it in detail?

[Chon] The North's reunification policy is to establish a unified national assembly through free, general elections and to found a unified government. To elect one national assemblyman for each district having 100,000 eligible voters and, thus, to elect a total of 600 national assemblymen throughout the North and South is impossible in practical terms, because the North and South have confronted each other sharply for more than 40 years, being divided into the socialist and capitalist systems. Therefore, if a unified government is established through free, general elections, a war would break out between the North and South. If the socialist system is established in the country, the South Korean people who like the capitalist system would desperately struggle against it.

On the other hand, if a capitalist government is established, the North Korean people who support the socialist system would struggle against it.

We know very well that even these days in Vietnam, there is a continuous stream of refugees and that there was disaster in Kampuchea. Also, we think that if our country becomes like that it will be a big tragedy. If a unilateral system is enforced, the nation will again undergo pains for tens of years. Therefore, as a practical method for reunification, we proposed that the North and South have the same number of seats in the National Assembly to establish a confederal government and that the current governments of the North and South establish separate regional autonomous governments; that is to insist on reunifying the country under a confederal system, which is having one state, one nation, and two autonomous governments.

[An] Currently, the CPRF is coming forth as the North's working-level counterpart in the preliminary talks for the pannational meeting, which the National Coalition of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation [Chonminnyon] proposed. What are the opinions and positions of the committee and, moreover, of the North side on these talks?

[Chon] How can there be opposition to or uncertainty about proposals for a joint and open-minded discussion of the various pending issues by the constituents of the nation who desire reunification? From our position, if necessary, we will negotiate and compromise with the government authorities of the South; but in reality, since the main body for reunification is the people, we believe that we should not be in the least negligent toward Chonminnyon, a popular organization which set sail with the people's expectations and which is founded by the people. It is especially all the more encouraging that Chonminnyon, which is a new coalition composed of various dissident figures in the antidictatorial struggle for independence, proposed the pannational meeting.

[An] The issue of the participation in the Pyongyang World Festival for Youth and Students of university students affiliated with the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] of South Korea is becoming the subject of great controversy and interest. What do you think about this?

[Chon] This festival will be an opportunity for us to show the world our will for peace and desire for reunification. Through this event, if hundreds and thousands of students cross the demarcation line, a tense area, and join and embrace the youth and students of the North, who are their fellow countrymen but who were kept at a respectful distance, and cry out for peace and reunification, this spectacle would indeed be an opportunity to open wide the gate for reunification, which has been closed up for 40 years.

[An] What do you think is the significance of Mr Chong Chu-yong's visit to the North?

[Chon] What I can say is that the visit to the North by Mr Chong was a visit to his hometown and relatives, which was realized in a humanitarian way. The economic cooperation or exchange which was frequently talked about was not that big an issue. On the issue of economic cooperation, after Mr Chong visited his hometown, he said he wanted to do something for his nation and hometown. Therefore, the issue of a joint-venture project was proposed then and not prearranged ahead of time.

I know that he is known in South Korea as a comprador capitalist who exploits the workers. However, our policy is to apply a humanitarian principle to anyone for our cause of reunification. And also, the purpose of Mr. Chong's visit to the North was to show that we do not deny or denounce South Korea's capitalism by advocating only our system and ideology.

Mexico Expels 4 North Korean Acupuncturists
*SK1803033089 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
18 Mar 89 p 2*

[Text] Mexico City (YONHAP)—Four North Koreans were recently expelled from Mexico for engagement in political activities in violation of their visa status, it has been learned.

Diplomatic sources said they entered the Central American country on Feb. 3 for the purpose of giving lectures on needle therapy at a university in the bustling capital.

However, they engaged in the spreading of the dogmatic ideology of North Korean leader Kim Il-sung, taking part in various meetings arranged by a pro-North Korean organization in flagrant violation of the professed purpose for their visit.

As their 30-day visas expired, they applied for extensions only to be turned down. They were given only 48 hours to pack and leave.

However, they stayed on in defiance of the order only to be picked up and forcibly deported to Cuba after paying about 30,000 pesos in penalty to the immigration authorities on March 13.

Trade Talks in Beijing Planned for 22-28 Mar
*SK2203121189 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in
Korean
21 Mar 89 p 6*

[Text] Talks will be held in Beijing this weekend to discuss establishing central government-level trade offices and upgrading the offices to trade missions in Korea and the PRC.

On 21 March, according to the authorities concerned, our side's delegation led by Yi Son-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation [KOTRA], will leave for Beijing on 22 March and will stay there until 28 March to hold working negotiations on these matters with the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade [CCPIT].

In January, Zheng Hongye, vice chairman and acting chairman of CCPIT, sent a letter of invitation under the auspices of CCPIT to Yi Son-ki, president of KOTRA. Thus, the negotiations for establishing the central government-level trade offices between Korea and the PRC are being promoted at the request of the PRC side. The full-dress negotiations to upgrade the trade offices between Korea and the PRC to the level of trade missions will be held and a decision will be made during these negotiations.

Last April, in view of the relations with North Korea, the PRC Government established indirect exchanges at the civilian and provincial levels as the basic principles for economic exchanges with South Korea. But recently the PRC Government changed some these principles and has attempted central government-level economic cooperation.

Thus, our side's delegation was expected to visit the PRC this February for working negotiations, but the visit has been delayed due to our government's conditions.

Many Koreans in China Seek To Visit ROK
*SK2103012489 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Mar 89 p 3*

[Text] More than half of the Korean residents in mainland China who applied to visit their motherland have had their wishes come true, the Korean National Red Cross [KNRC] revealed yesterday.

Since 1975, 3,801 of 6,638 applicants, or 57.3 percent, have visited South Korea, according to the KNRC.

Of the visitors, 170 have resettled in South Korea.

"There are 2,680 people who have failed to visit despite permits from the Chinese government. We will make our best efforts to help them make the trip," a KNRC official said.

The KNRC is also sponsoring a homecoming programs for Koreans living in the Soviet Far Eastern island of Sakhalin.

A total of 207 Koreans residents on the Soviet island have so far visited their home country. And six have returned for good.

Young Koreans were taken to the island by Japanese militarists to do forced labor in the closing days of World War II, and they could not return home as Sakhalin Island fell to Soviet forces.

Interview With Soviet Trade Official
SK2203065089 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
20 Mar 89 p 5

[Interview with Valeriy Nazarov, director of the Soviet Union's Seoul trade office, in Moscow, by TONG-A ILBO correspondent Mun Myong-ho—date not given]

[Text] Mr Valeriy Nazarov, the first director of the Soviet Union's trade office in Seoul who is expected to go to Seoul to assume his post on 30 March, was interviewed by TONG-A ILBO at the Soviet Chamber of Commerce. Despite his career as an expert in trade with foreign countries, he looked more like a diplomat than a businessman.

His answers to the correspondent's questions were very cautious and diplomatic, but he was full of volition and expectations perhaps because of his important role of bridge-building with Korea with which the Soviet Union has no diplomatic relations.

[Mun Myong-ho] What will be your priority in Korea?

[Valeriy Nazarov] First I will have extensive contacts with Korean businessmen, and second, I will try my best to know Korea and its people. There is a saying in the Soviet Union, "Seeing is believing."

[Mun] What is your knowledge of Korea?

[Nazarov] Judging from my meetings with the Korean people to date, as well as from the information and data available, the Korean economy is very impressive and deserves a high appraisal. Above all, I would highly value the diligence of the Korean people most.

[Mun] Judging from your contacts with Korean businessmen, do you find that they are people you can conduct business with?

[Nazarov] Yes, indeed they are people I can work with. Korean businessmen are not only well versed in economics but have a broad outlook on the world. They have extensive knowledge and understanding in many fields, such as culture, science, education, and sports.

[Mun] Which side do you think will benefit more from trade between the two countries?

[Nazarov] It will be conducted right from the beginning on the basis of mutual advantage and equal benefit.

[Mun] Korea and the Soviet Union have a difference of opinions regarding consular functions, such as issuance of visas in connection with trade. What is the progress of negotiations on this issue?

[Nazarov] We had preliminary negotiations with the Korean side in connection with consular functions. Our position is that trade relations should be supported by corresponding consular activities. No decision has been made yet. We will continue to discuss this issue and will come to a specific conclusion.

[Mun] How much increase do you anticipate in trade between the two countries after the establishment of the trade office?

[Nazarov] We intend not to impose any limit to it. We have had too little trade with such an economically developed country as Korea. So far we have conducted our trade only through a third party.

[Mun] Will direct trade between the two countries be possible after the establishment of the trade office?

[Nazarov] Yes, it will. Direct trade will begin this year. It is our mission to promote it to direct trade. The scale of the direct trade will depend upon how well the two sides will conduct business. We have very favorable conditions for developing direct trade as the economy of the two sides can help and complement each other.

[Mun] How many people will be dispatched to the trade office in Seoul?

[Nazarov] There will be five people working in the trade office based on the agreement made. However, I want to stress that this is a preliminary step. We will also employ Korean personnel who will assist us in our work in Seoul.

[Mun] The greatest obstacle in our trade and investment with the Soviet Union at present is the problem of converting the ruble into international hard currency. What is the prospect of a solution to this problem?

[Nazarov] Of course we know that there is a problem because the ruble is not convertible. However, this problem will be solved. We have a step-by-step program to solve this problem. Before long we will make a so-called open foreign exchange market. In this foreign exchange market even Soviet businessmen will have the right to buy and sell foreign exchange.

[Mun] Can this be construed as a guarantee from the Soviet Government?

[Nazarov] The Soviet Government also has a firm position as to this step-by-step measure. The ruble will be bought and sold according to the prevailing conversion rate (floating conversion rate). This open foreign exchange market will facilitate our trade.

[Mun] When will the Korean trade mission to develop Siberia come to the Soviet Union?

[Nazarov] We are supposed to hold another round of discussion with Korea's Federation of Korean Industrialists this spring.

[Mun] What tangible profits can Korea expect if it undertakes the Siberian development?

[Nazarov] We have included not only Siberia but also the Far East in the development program. We reviewed in the first place what will be mutually beneficial and this includes such areas as fishing, chemical industry, forestry, energy industry, machinery, and consumer goods. We are much interested in Korea's advanced technology.

[Mun] Will it be possible for Korean planes to fly over the Soviet Union and for Soviet planes to fly over Korea in the near future?

[Nazarov] I think it will be possible sometime this year.

[Correspondent's note] It is reported here at present that negotiation is under way over the air routes for the Korean side to fly to Europe by way of Moscow and for the Soviet side to fly to Seoul by way of Shanghai, China.

Mr Nazarov said that he will bring his wife and two children when he goes to assume his post in Seoul and smiled when he said that his 10-year-old son is full of expectations of his life in Seoul more than he is, looking forward to "playing computer games."

Businessmen To Visit Soviet Union in May
SK2203075589 Seoul YONHAP in English 0752 GMT
22 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—A group of South Korean businessmen will visit the Soviet Union in May to study investment prospects.

Representatives of 20 manufacturers, mainly light industries, will visit Moscow and Leningrad to look into the feasibility of doing business in the regions, a member of the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK) said after a meeting Wednesday at the Korea world trade center.

They will call on many Soviet economic establishments to learn about the nation's economic policies toward Korea, an IPECK official said.

IPECK, set up late last year as a coordinator for the private businesses' bid to make inroads to communist countries, has more than 300 local manufacturers as members and has a subcommittee on the western Soviet Union.

IPECK is to invite officials of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce to give seminars on investment conditions and related Soviet laws in late June.

Control Over Communist Joint Ventures Tightened

SK2003062489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0610 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea, tightening its control on business deals in the private sector with communist countries, will require firms to obtain government approval for joint ventures worth more than one million U.S. dollars, the Economic Planning Board (EPB) said Monday.

"The Working-Level Committee for Northern Economic Policy" of the Economic Planning Board (EPB) decided on March 15 that private bids for joint ventures with communist nations involving over 1 million dollars under the Korean export-import bank's guarantee be subject to prior government approval, EPB officials said.

Businesses will be requested to submit their investment plans to the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK), a non-governmental consultative body for coordinating business deals in communist regions, which will pass them along to the relevant government agencies for initial official screening.

The plans will finally be examined by the working-level committee, a high-powered inter-ministerial consultative organization, they explained.

The measure will not be applicable when firms seek self-reliant financing for their projects, though this exception has virtually no significance as, in almost all cases, they seek the exim bank's guarantee to acquire enough financing.

Currently, business concerns need only obtain the central bank's approval to get the exim bank's guarantee.

The working-level committee's decision, according to the EPB officials, was based on a concern that joint ventures with communist countries have possibilities of great risks arising from differences in political, social and economic systems and a shortage of foreign currency in the communist bloc. With the exception of Hungary, South Korea has no diplomatic ties with any communist nations.

The officials also said the decision stemmed partly from fears that reckless joint-venture contracts without proper financing may reduce confidence in South Korea and affect bilateral relations.

The government have apparently found it necessary to steer economic cooperation with communist countries in a direction that match South Korea's diplomatic and security interests.

The working-level panel also decided that private bids for construction orders in the communist bloc should be scrutinized by the EPB. The Construction Ministry will continue initial screening of contractors' plans, but it will later seek a decision from the EPB or the working-level committee, according to the sources.

South Korean companies have concluded 16 joint-venture contracts with communist countries since 1985: 13 with China and the remainder with the Soviet Union and East European countries. Eight contracts, including six with China, are worth over 1 million U.S. dollars.

Korea Urged To Open Markets, Join OECD
*SK1803075389 Seoul YONHAP in English 0714 GMT
18 Mar 89*

[Text] Brussels, March 18 (YONHAP)—The European Parliament called on South Korea to open its agricultural market Friday, describing the free trade of agricultural goods as a main issue of the Uruguay round of GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

The call was included in a resolution adopted on the fifth day of the parliament's regular spring session in Strasbourg, France.

It proposed that the "four dragons" of South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to improve cooperation with developed countries.

The resolution urged Korea to appreciate the won currency and remove various non-tariff barriers, including allegedly discriminatory protection of intellectual property rights and the recommendation system of granting import permits.

It also called for continued pressures on Korea to open its market by taking stronger administrative steps and publicising an improvement of trade relations with Europe as helpful in reducing Korea's dependency on the U.S. market and vulnerability to U.S. trade policy.

Europe should take "adequate measures" if Korea and Japan fail to open their markets wide enough, it said, warning that the maintenance of multilateral trade through market opening is necessary to prevent establishment of an economic bloc in the Pacific region that excludes Europe.

Chon Expresses Intention To Testify at Assembly
*SK2203003689 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
22 Mar 89 p 1*

[Text] Disgraced former president Chon Tu-hwan was learned to have consented to testify on the tragic 1980 Kwangju incident and irregularities in his administration at a closed-door parliamentary hearing.

Chon's testimony is likely to take place around mid-April, according to a reliable source of the ruling camp yesterday.

Rival parties will be engaged in negotiations on the method of Chon's testimony and other political issues in a meeting of floor leaders today.

The source revealed that Chon expressed his consent to Kim Yun-hwan, his former aide and incumbent floor leader of the governing Democratic Justice Party [DJP], who visited him last Friday at a secluded Buddhist temple where Chon and his wife Yi Sun-cha have been dwelling since Nov. 23, 1988.

At the request of testimony before the House, Chon was quoted as having said, "I am willing to do anything if it is helpful to the nation." The DJP has conveyed Chon's intention to opposition parties.

Talks to move Chon's dwelling from the isolated temple after his testimony and his security guarantee were exchanged between the rival camps, it was learned.

The method of Chon's testimony which the DJP seeks is that special House panels on the Kwangju incident and the Fifth Republic's misdeeds will send questionnaires to Chon and the ex-president will read his prepared answers to the joint session of the House committees, it was learned.

In addition, the DJP stands firmly on the position that Chon's testimony should be a one-shot event.

The ruling camp source said, "Chon's testimony is likely in the middle of April because it will take both sides some time to prepare the questionnaires and answers."

Another ex-president Choe Kyu-ha was reported to have refused to stand witness before the House panels. However, the source predicted, testimony by Choe will be pursued after Chon's.

As to Chon's intention, Chon's aides said that they did not have any idea about Chon's intention to testify at the House.

In a meeting of rival party whips today, they are expected to discuss in detail how to wrap up the probe of the irregularities of the past regime and the implementation of local autonomy.

As a symbolic action to liquidate the ills of the Fifth Republic, the opposition parties demand that Chong Ho-yong and Yi Won-cho, both key figures in the Chon regime, should be relieved from their public posts. But the DJP stands firmly against the opposition demand.

Meanwhile, opposition parties yesterday urged the ruling party to convene an extra House session no later than April 10 to complete works of sweeping away the evil legacies of the past regime.

Police To Use Firearms With Violent Protesters
*SK2203115189 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
1000 GMT 22 Mar 89*

[Text] While people are concerned about the possible increase of demonstrations and labor disputes after the indefinite postponement of the interim appraisal, National Police Headquarters has decided to sternly deal with violent demonstrators by mobilizing all police beginning today. Reporter Yi Son-che reports:

[Reporter Yi Son-che] In view of the possibility of dissident organizations and those on university campuses increasing violent demonstrations in connection with the indefinite postponement of the interim appraisal and the deepening of labor disputes, the police decided to search out the left-leaning forces and underground organizations and to sternly deal with illegal, violent demonstrations.

National Police Director Cho Chong-sok disclosed this decision at the meeting of the chiefs of police bureaus of all cities and provinces and instructed them to sternly deal with the left-leaning, violent groups by using the entire police force to defend the very existence of the police themselves.

Accordingly, the police have begun to search out left-leaning organizations and underground organizations and have decided to block the increasing distribution of books connected with the North which praise the chuche idea.

As for the illegal violent demonstrations, the police also decided to simultaneously block the starting place, the place of passage, and the assembling place of the demonstrators using the police force to the utmost degree and to whisk away all the leaders of such demonstrations.

The police also decided to have all members of investigative and counter-communist teams carry handguns at all times and to issue M-16 rifles to police branches and police boxes. Thus, the police can use firearms according to the policemen's on-the-job regulations in case police institutions are attacked by privately made firebombs or Molotov cocktails.

Dissident, Student Rally Seeks To Oust No Tae-u
*SK2103012089 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Mar 89 p 3*

[Text] About 5,000 dissidents, workers and students called for the stepdown of President No Tae-u in a rally on Hanyang University campus in eastern Seoul, Sunday afternoon. After the rally, about 200 radicals violently clashed with riot police.

In the rally, Chonminnyon, the National Alliance for Democratic Movement, and 10 other dissident bodies inaugurated an organization to struggle for No's ouster and no-confidence in his mid-term appraisal.

The ralliers accused No's government of suppressing people's struggle for the right to live and having no intention to punish those responsible for the massacre in the 1980 Kwangju uprising.

They also adopted a special resolution in which they demanded the government release the arrested Seoul subway union leaders and instruct Seoul Mayor Ko Kon to sign the labor-management accord.

5-Year Plan Draft To Address Rural Development
*SK1903045789 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
19 Mar 89 p 6*

[By staff reporter Chong Pong-uk]

[Text] The draft five-year development plan for rural areas mirrors the government's firm will to tackle troubles in the farming sector which has been ignored in the course of the nation's industrialization which started in the early 1960s.

The worsening state of the farming towns became evident when an increasing number of farmers left their hometown for urban areas. The rural population was halved during the past one and a half decades to about 7.8 million in 1987.

Furthermore, most of the farmers leaving their towns are young. The share of farmers aged 60 or above in total rural population increased from 7.9 percent in 1972 to 9.6 percent in 1977, to 12 percent in 1982 and further to 15.7 percent in 1987.

Also troubling the farmers is their low income. Government statistics show their annual income now is at a level equivalent to a mere 70 percent of urban laborers' earnings.

Partly because of the low income and partly because of their rising costs they were ridden with a combined 4.47 trillion won debt at the end of 1987.

Poor living environments are also a troublesome factor in the rural areas.

To solve these and other problems in farming and fishing towns, the government started to move belatedly two or three years ago, allotting more government budget for developing rural areas and constructing farming-industrial estates. The government action was based on the judgement that the Korean economy can hardly join the ranks of advanced economies unless it develops the rural economy.

More specifically, the trouble is the small scale of cultivated lands owned by a majority of farmers resulting in unsystematic farming.

To shoot the trouble, the government development plan calls for establishment of a corporation responsible for helping farmers buy more cultivated lands. The corporation will extend loans to farmers engaging exclusively in farming when they buy more than 1 ha of cultivated land.

The loans will come from a cultivated land management fund scaled at 2 trillion won. The fund will also finance farmers' rent of cultivated lands.

The rural development plan also calls for designation of the areas favorable for farming as "the faring promotion zones" subject to active investments.

The restructuring of the farming sector is also designed to strengthen its international competitiveness to prepare for wider opening of the local agricultural market.

Under a strong pressure from the United States, the government is drafting a list of farm fishery products those market will be opened to foreign countries for the next three years.

To strengthen the competitiveness, the development plan calls for raising the farming mechanization ratio to 80 percent by 1992 from the present 48 percent. The government will pour 448.6 billion won into the mechanization projects until 1992.

The plan is also projecting increasing the pavement ratio for inter-county roads from the present 34 percent to 80 percent in 1992. Government outlays for the pavement projects will total 7.62 trillion won.

Programs to lessen farmers' burden from their debt are yet to be formed in consultation with the National Assembly.

The comprehensive rural development plan is formulated at a time when farmers are expressing their growing complaints in this era of a democratic reform.

The farmers have staged demonstrations asking for more systematic projects for rural development and shelving of the government schedule for opening the agricultural market wider to foreign countries.

Prime Minister Announces Planned Law Revisions
SK1903021989 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
19 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] The government plans to legislate or revise 114 laws this year in order to reflect changes in values and social environments, Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun said yesterday.

He said redefinition of several criminal laws is inevitable because some misconduct which was once defined as criminal does not constitute a crime any more because of the changes in values and ethics.

The government also plans to enact several laws to accommodate and to cope with changes in social and economic environments, he said.

Those include a law for compensation for damage to health by environmental pollution, a law for an insurance system to protect farmers from natural disasters, and a law for setting a ceiling on the size of the land for urban houses.

The prime minister said the government will also revise related laws to protect consumers in service sectors including banking, insurance and medical services.

Kang said the law for promotion of technological development will be revised to reduce institutional protection of new Korean products to avoid trade friction when the Korean market is opened further. The bank law will be also changed to guarantee the autonomy of banks.

He said a basic law for promotion of science and technology will be enacted for governmental support for the development of science and technology. A law for development of basic science research will be also made to promote research in basic science.

Government To Focus on Improving People's Welfare

SK2103011089 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] Cabinet members yesterday discussed follow-up step to President No Tae-u's declaration shelving his midterm appraisal yesterday afternoon and decided to focus administrative business on the improvement of living conditions and further welfare of people, in particular, low incomes, as part of ways to seek their support.

In a free-wheeling debate presided over by Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, they were determined to push ahead with democracy and eradication of past misdeeds committed by former president Chon Tu-hwan and his deputies.

Stepped-up efforts will be also made to help Kwangju citizens, branded as rioters for their protests in May 1980, restore their honor and receive "due" compensation, said sources at the Prime Minister's Office.

Seeing that the nation is placed at a crossroad between progress and regress in both political and economic terms, the ministers welcomed No's decision and called for the people's cooperation in "driving our country forward along the best course of voyage," according to the sources.

Apparently relieved of the potentially heavy burden of the mid-term vote, however, they viewed that it has now become a more pressing task for the administration to pursue democratic progress to assuage the complaints of a part of society who were dissatisfied with No's hesitation in implementing the crucial campaign promise.

Other election vows would be carried out as scheduled, they added.

However, the sources refused to elaborate on the contests of more-than-two-hour Cabinet meeting.

Paper Urges Reinstatement of Journalists

SK1903100089 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
17 Mar 89 p 6

[Editorial: "Judgment of History Is Just Around the Corner—The 14th Anniversary of the Founding of the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press and the Liquidation of the Crimes of the TONG-A ILBO Company"]

[Text] On 1 April every year, while putting forth its company slogan advocating "nationalism and democracy," the TONG-A ILBO Company celebrates the anniversary of its founding "in a loud voice." Prior to this, on 17 March every year, the 113 members of the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press, who became "street journalists" when the TONG-A ILBO Company took away their pens and microphones, arrange a small meeting and demand "in a low but strong voice" that the members of the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press be honorably reinstated. The TONG-A ILBO Company marks the 69th anniversary of its founding this year. Even though 14 years have already passed since the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press was founded, no street journalists have been able to return to their original workplace.

When the frozen earth melts, trees bud out and flowers blossom. At today's historic turning point, when the Yusin dictatorial regime, which forcibly dismissed journalists who tried to achieve free press, collapsed and when even the Chon Tu-hwan regime, which took the "spring" away from the people, disappeared, the members of the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press have not yet regained their own "spring." However, during the 16-year period, six members of the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press died of diseases caused by the hardships of their prison life or other diseases; approximately 20 members were imprisoned; and approximately 200 members were arrested, detained, or placed under house arrest. Despite the thorny path of hardships, their firm belief in the free press has firmly taken root in the frozen land. "The declaration on the national and democratic press," which was released in late 1977, together with the

Choson Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press, are good examples. The declaration says: "Giving freedom to the masses and reunification to the nation are the demands of our era which no one can reject and is a course of history that no one can disturb." Our society is truly advancing along this course today, is it not? In order to realize at an early date the democratic and national press, the TONG-A ILBO and CHOSON ILBO Companies, which for the past 14 years have been "press organizations of falsehood and distortions," must purify themselves by reinstating dismissed journalists and by providing compensation for the spiritual and physical damage inflicted upon them. If the two newspapers, which have grown to become colossal press companies and powers in press circles by currying favor with the successive Yusin, "Fifth Republic," and "Sixth Republic" military dictatorships, courageously and openly recognize and apologize for the violence that they committed in 1975, they will be entitled to use the title of "national newspaper" without a guilty conscience.

In March 1975, in collusion with the dictatorial regime, the TONG-A ILBO Company massively dismissed 113 journalists. This "violence" is a "crime that is not affected by the statute of deadline in filing suits." In marking the 14th anniversary of its founding, the Tong-a Committee for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press sent its fourth "Open Letter to the TONG-A ILBO Company." This letter warned the TONG-A ILBO Company that "the judgment of history is just around the corner." This means that the TONG-A ILBO Company must use this last opportunity to make a fresh start after cleaning up its past 14 years of shame and dishonor. If the TONG-A ILBO Company, which lost its first opportunity of the "spring of 1980," again loses this second "good opportunity," its crime of 1975, which provided a basis for the large-scale massacre of the journalists in 1980, will go down in Korean press history as an indelible blot. "The Council To Struggle To Have Dismissed Journalists Reinstated," jointly established by the Choson and Tong-a Committees for a Struggle To Defend the Free Press, the Council of Journalists Dismissed in the 1980's, the Reporters Association, the Federation of Journalists' Labor Unions, the Journalists Council, and the Federation of [Radio and Television] Producers, is now conducting a movement for the reinstatement of the dismissed journalists; the compensation of their losses; the passage of a special law concerning compensating dismissed journalists; and the holding of public hearings on dismissed journalists. The TONG-A ILBO and CHOSON ILBO Companies must know that incumbent and former journalists are making such efforts out of an ardent will to put an end to the shameful history of the press organizations within the establishments which have so far committed antinational and antipopular crimes. The TONG-A ILBO and CHOSON ILBO Companies must not turn a blind eye to the democratization of the press, the trend of the era, and will not be able to do so.

Burma

Two Incidents, More Arrests Reported 21 Mar

BK2103143589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Text] At 1100 today, about 100 people led by Soe Thein from the National League for Democracy and Ko Ko Gyi from Min Ko Naing's group gathered at the junction of Insein and Prome Roads to incite unrest.

The Defense Forces told them they would act according to law, that action would be taken against those who violate law, and told them not to disturb law and order and to disperse. While the majority dispersed, some did not, and four more persons were detained. The situation returned to normal at about 1400.

Similarly, at about 1515, about 50 students and youths chanted antigovernment slogans at the corner of Anawratha Road and 38th Street and attempted to incite unrest that the Defense Forces had to control systematically. The situation returned to normal at 1530.

Presently, there have been improvements in the law and order situation in Rangoon and the majority of the people are pursuing their livelihood peacefully. However, unrest such as this has happened because some political parties, who do not desire law, order, peace, and tranquility, are instigating unrest under various pretexts, it has been learned.

Student Demonstrations Viewed

BK2203043289 London BBC in Burmese 1 Burma 1400 GMT 22 Mar 89

[From the "Current World Affairs" program]

[Text] There has been another round of student demonstrations in Rangoon following the arrest of about a dozen students who were trying to enter the Rangoon University campus closed down by the army. Christopher Gunness filed the following report:

The demonstration today took place near Rangoon University in front of the police station at the junction of Insein and Prome Roads. Around noon, about 100 demonstrators arrived to protest the arrest of 10 or more students yesterday. The demonstration was peaceful and broke up calmly in the late afternoon.

Some reports however say pockets of students remained around the university campus. Although some students appeared to be angry, the situation has generally remained calm.

There were about 300 to 500 soldiers on the campus, and it is learned that troops have also been reinforced in the inner Rangoon city areas. Although additional troops have been arriving in preparation for the Armed Forces

Day on Monday [27 March], diplomats say their presence is also an indication of the government's concern over the recent commemorative events to protest the suppression of last year's demonstrations led by the students.

One diplomat said students have been playing a cat and mouse game in staging demonstrations. Small groups of students emerge in different parts of the city and then disappear when the soldiers arrive and the situation appears to be heading for a confrontation.

Meanwhile, fresh reports have been received about yesterday's incident at Rangoon University. About 20 students gathered at the university and tried to enter the campus, which had been closed since yesterday's demonstrations. Some reports say they were trying to open the main gate of the university. According to Rangoon Radio, 10 students were arrested and taken to a nearby police station. A group of people supporting the students then surrounded the police station. When some 100 soldiers arrived on the scene the demonstration ended without violence. It is unclear if the arrested students are still being detained.

Regarding the likelihood of further demonstrations taking place, there are two schools of thought among observers in Rangoon. Some say the students are still enraged and have not given up their demand for the military government to step aside and set up an interim government; others say that while there is still uncertainty about the prospects of having fair and free elections, political parties prefer to act in a more cautious way. They are concerned that an open confrontation with the military government will invite another round of harsh suppressive measures and might affect the promise to hold multiparty elections.

Evidence of 'Tacit Understanding' Noted

BK2103052889 London BBC World Service in Burmese 1400 GMT 20 Mar 89

[From the "Current World Affairs" program]

[Text] There is further evidence that some sort of tacit understanding now exists between the military government and the protestors in Burma. The army was seen only to be enforcing law and order while completely avoiding any obstruction of a memorial meeting held by the students for their colleagues who died last year. (Derek Brook Wavell) made the following observations.

A lot of tension still remains in Burma following the seizure of power by the military authorities on 18 September. Because of its role in crushing the demands for democracy, the military still has not won back the respect and love from the majority of the people. There are also doubts about the promise given the military government to hold elections next year. However, the army has been cautiously avoiding any situation that would create another round of disturbances in the country.

Circumstances were very serious last week, and emotions ran high among some people about the three events last year. They are: Last year, on Monday [13 March], the killing of a student—Maung Phone Maw—by security police; the drowning of many students in Inya Lake; and the death by suffocation of 41 students in a police van.

Although the order banning the gathering of more than four persons is still in force in Burma, the students went ahead with a rally to commemorate the events. In addition to Rangoon, commemorative rallies were also held in Mandalay, Magwe, Sagaing, Meiktila, and Moulmein.

In Mandalay, students marched in procession from the Maha Myat Muni Pagoda to the city's center. In Rangoon, thousands of students gathered at a meeting at the Rangoon Arts and Science University which was also attended by the leaders from different political parties. The commemorative event was marked by religious proceedings, such as the offering of food to the monks, and by speeches and mass singing of songs.

On Thursday [16 March], bigger rallies were held, and students attempted to lay wreaths along the bund of the Inya Lake where their colleagues had fallen. They were, however, not permitted to leave the university campus. Although there were many army units on guard nearby, witnesses say there were no signs of hostility from the protestors. Hence, it is suggested that some form of peaceful coexistence may be gradually emerging between the protesting students and the army.

Some political parties, particularly the National League for Democracy, have been sending representatives to various parts of the country, and people in those regions gather en masse to listen to these representatives. This is despite a standing order banning demonstrations and the gathering of people. Political parties have protested against such restrictions, saying they contradict the promise of democratic elections.

In some regions, certain military officials have been arresting party workers and disrupting the work of the parties. Despite this, it is understood that both sides have shown as much patience and restraint as possible.

Students obtained permission from the authorities to use the university campus for last week's memorial events while the schools remained closed. The memorial was led by the so-called (Ma-Ka-Tha) group headed by Min Zeya which had earlier caused suspicion among the other student groups. However, these suspicions no longer remain.

During their eloquent speeches, the students continued to taunt the government about its promise to hold elections while making veiled threats against the students and political parties. However, since the holding of elections represents a step forward without any loss of lives, the protestors are in fact giving the government the opportunity to hold elections as promised and are avoiding a confrontation.

Meanwhile, military authorities continue to reiterate their promise of elections while doing whatever is necessary economically. They have come to realize that a warning of stern measures backed by a show of force is more effective than actually carrying out such threats. Last week, student organizations with different beliefs came together for talks, and decided only to engage in political activity. It appears that as long as the government continues to pursue its present policies, the students are willing to avoid a situation that would provoke confrontation.

Minister Seeks Help To Bring Down Rice Prices
BK1603003289 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Mar 89

[Text] Colonel Abel, minister of planning, finance, and trade, coordinated measures to be implemented immediately to bring down rice prices at a meeting held at the Ministry of Trade this afternoon with members of the Rangoon Division Price Reduction Supervisory Committee headed by Colonel Kyaw Min; rice mill operators, who are members of the Burma Rice Millers Association, headed by Chairman U Chon Sein of the Zabulay rice mill; and personnel from the Cooperatives Department, the Central Cooperatives Society, the Rangoon Division Cooperatives Department, and the Rangoon Division Syndicate of Township Cooperatives Society.

Addressing the meeting, the minister said although rice production this year has been better than in previous years, rice traders have been exploiting the rice sale and distribution situation in nonrice producing areas to increase the price of paddy and rice at the expense of consumers. Since this is something that should not be happening, I wish to appeal to the goodwill and conscience of the rice millers and traders to join out of love for their nation and their fellow countrymen in the collective effort to bring down rice prices.

Representatives of rice mills and cooperatives then discussed in detail the opening as soon as possible of a rice procurement and sale center in Rangoon, the availability of rice warehouses, and rice storage and replenishment programs. They also decided to take assistance from the Rangoon Division Prices Reduction Supervisory Committee.

New Democracy Party Announces Dissolution
BK1103080989 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Mar 89

[Text] ("Announcement No 244 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 10 March 1989—the 4th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era")

[Text] 1. The Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections stated in its announcement No 106 dated 8 November 1989 that the New Democracy

Party, which had its headquarters at No 97-A, Ground Floor, 97th Street, Lamadaw Township, Rangoon Division, had been permitted registration.

2. All members of the Central Executive Committee of the New Democracy Party, including the chairman, secretary, and joint general secretary of that party, had asked this commission to dissolve their party in accordance with the wishes of all members of the Central Executive Committee with effect from 10 March 1989. In accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, this commission cancels the registration of the New Democracy Party effective 10 March 1989.

More Political Parties Issue Aims, Programs

National Politics Women Force
*BK1303075589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 12 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 89/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 12 March 1989—the 6th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the aims and future programs of the National Politics Women Force, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 397, 84th Street, between 38th and 39th Streets, Western Maha Aungmye, Mandalay Southeast Township, Mandalay Division.

2. Aims

- A. To obtain as a democratic right and systematically within the framework of law the rights of women embodied in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- B. For all women to join in the efforts to build a national democratic republic that is peaceful, tranquil, independent, and self-reliant.
- C. To join hands with international women's organizations in efforts to prevent regional, world, and nuclear wars and to oppose neocolonialism and apartheid.

3. Programs

- A. To draft and implement a new state constitution that firmly guarantees democratic rights enshrined in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- B. To work shoulder to shoulder with men to overcome problems that obstruct national economic development.
- C. To welcome any unattached form of assistance and cooperation from any nation, organization, or individual if such assistance and cooperation contribute to national economic development.
- D. To decisively oppose all forms of dictatorship which are the main enemies to democracy, peace, and national solidarity.

E. To introduce free primary education and to practice a democratic education system that is of world standards and that is in harmony with the needs of the nation.

F. To open education centers for women, mother and child care health centers, and cultural and home economics training centers to ensure a peaceful, secure, and guaranteed high standard of living for all women.

Conservative Party

*BK1303080189 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 12 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 88/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 12 March 1989—the 6th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the objectives and future programs of the Conservative Party, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 37, First Floor, Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Aims:

- A. To revive the administration of modern Burma in accordance with Burmese customs and traditions.
- B. To revive and promote the traditional culture and customs of all national groups of Burma.

3. Programs:

- A. To build eternal unity and solidarity among the national people.
- B. To reconstruct Burma's conventional administrative machinery.
- C. To adopt and implement economic systems which have proved to be successful internationally and are in harmony with Burma's conditions.
- D. To foster friendly relations with people in other countries.
- E. To strive for free medical treatment for everyone.
- F. To adopt compulsory free education at the elementary level.
- G. To allow the private sector and cooperatives to open schools, colleges and universities.
- H. To strive for equal and just rights for everyone irrespective of race, religion, and sex.
- I. To work for the free expression of traditional culture and ethics if they do not contravene existing laws.

National Economic Development Force
*BK1403030089 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 13 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 90/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 13 March 1989—the 7th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the objectives and future programs of the National Economic Development Force, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 397, 84th Street, between 38th and 39th Streets, Western Maha Aungmye, Mandalay Southeast Township, Mandalay Division.

2. Aims

- A. To revive the national economy.
- B. To build a free and self-reliant modern nation.
- C. To cooperate with the people of other nations in opposing neocolonialism.

3. Programs

A. To work for the development of the country through national policies based on the cause of democracy, peace, and national unity.

B. To give priority to the introduction of a production sector that is easily implemented and which bears as well immediate results and contributes to the revival of the national economy.

C. To create conditions that will increase individual earnings on the basis of one's qualification, and to promote freedom to engage in any economic enterprise, production, trade, management, and innovative schemes so that national capitalists, technicians, and intellectuals will emerge to assist in the development of the national economy.

D. To expand and develop agricultural production through modern methods and to establish national industries based on agricultural products.

E. To welcome and accept any form of unattached economic assistance and cooperation from any nation, organization, or individual if such an exercise contributes to national economic development.

F. To import technology and investments from developed nations in order to develop the national economy.

G. To cooperate with all national groups in the Union of Burma on the basis of equality and to exploit natural resources for equal benefit.

National Politics Labor Force
*BK1503024089 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 92/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 14 March 1989—the 8th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are the extracts of the aims and future programs of the National Politics Labor Force, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 397, 84th Street, between 38th and 39th Streets, Western Maha Aungmye, Mandalay Southeast Township, Mandalay Division.

2. Aims

- A. To obtain, maintain, and safeguard systematically within the framework of law democratic rights embodied in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- B. For the workers to join the other classes and forces in the efforts to build a national democratic republic that is developed, peaceful, tranquil, independent, and self-reliant.
- C. To obtain, maintain, and safeguard systematically within the framework of law democratic rights and benefits of workers.

3. Programs

A. To draft and implement a new state constitution that firmly guarantees democratic rights and human dignity enshrined in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

B. To solve through political means the problems being encountered today and to build peace in the country.

C. To ensure rights of workers are embodied in the new state constitution.

D. To work for the right to have labor representatives in the National Assembly and in the legislative process and for them to be part of the management body as well as the process of drafting work discipline.

E. To permit labor unions to exist as independent and free democratic organizations and to freely permit them to represent and protect the rights of workers.

F. For the state to solve the unemployment problem through plans.

G. For the state to be responsible for building housing for workers and for it to take charge of education, health, and welfare needs of workers' dependents.

National Politics Peasants Force
*BK1503024289 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 91/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 14 March 1989—the 8th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are the extracts of the aims and future programs of the National Politics Peasants Force, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 397, 84th Street, between 38th and 39th Streets, Western Maha Aungmye, Mandalay Southeast Township, Mandalay Division.

2. Aims

- A. To obtain, maintain, and safeguard systematically within the framework of law democratic rights embodied in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- B. For the peasantry to join the other classes and forces in the efforts to build a national democratic republic that is modern, peaceful, tranquil, independent, and self-reliant.
- C. To obtain, maintain, and safeguard systematically within the framework of law democratic rights and benefits of the peasantry.

3. Programs

- A. To draft and implement a new state constitution that firmly guarantees democratic rights and human dignity enshrined in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- B. To solve through political means the problems being encountered today and to build peace in the country.
- C. To fix the price of paddy and other agricultural crops in such a way that the peasants will not suffer and in accordance with prevailing prices in world markets.
- D. To permit ownership and transference of farmland on the basis of the principle that the tillers shall be owners of farmland.
- E. To collect statistics throughout the country on ownership of farmland and farming machinery, the number of peasants and farm hands, and other data so as to prevent individuals from owning excessive farmland and to coordinate with peasants to prevent any trend promoting landlordism.
- F. To grant the peasants the right to freely cultivate, store, mill, and trade agricultural crops.
- G. To permit peasants unions to exist as independent and free democratic organizations and to permit them to represent and protect the rights of peasants.

Union Party
*BK1103085989 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 10 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 84/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 10 March 1989—the 4th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are the extracts of the objectives and future programs of the Union Party, which has registered with the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 69, Yinmar Street, No 3A Ward, Mingaladon Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Aims:

- A. To draft a new constitution with representatives of the national people;
- B. To construct a genuine democratic system and to protect the sovereignty;
- C. To strive for national unity and to live in amity;
- D. To strive on all fronts for national economic reconstruction to become an economically strong country;
- E. To make the utmost efforts to achieve internal peace and to cooperate with international peace organizations; and
- F. To practice independent, active, and nonaligned foreign policy and to conduct friendly relations with neighboring countries.

3. Programs:

- A. To make the utmost efforts to ensure general justice and to eliminate corruption;
- B. To strive for literacy and free education for every person;
- C. To establish a modern transport system to facilitate transport and reduce the cost of transport;
- D. To ensure freedom of worship for religions of their choice for every national group and to encourage genuine propagation of religions;
- E. To allow tillers to own land and to expand the modern mechanized agricultural sector; and
- F. To alleviate the distress of workers, peasants, and all strata of the society and to work for their prosperity.

Esprit de Corps Restoration Party
*BK1803083889 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[“Press Release No 97/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 17 March 1989—the 11th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era”]

[Text] 1. The following are the extracts of the objectives and future programs of the Esprit de Corps Restoration Party, which has registered with the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in

accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 47-B, Natmauk Street, Magwe, Magwe Division.

2. Aims:

- A. To solve political, economic, educational, and social problems encountered in the Union of Burma through esprit de corps; and
- B. To work for raising the living standard of basic strata of the society.

3. Programs:

- A. To organize the people in order to make them genuinely accept and practice esprit de corps;
- B. To organize students and youths in order to make them genuinely accept and practice esprit de corps, and refrain from resorting to violence, pressure, and armed underground activities; and
- C. To strive to organize so that present political parties become parties which are formed with people who genuinely accept and practice esprit de corps.

Karen Rebels Said To Fire Into Shwegun

BK2203005489 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Text] KNU [Karen National Union] insurgents have been disrupting peace and tranquillity and killing and wounding innocent people with their shellings.

Between 0935 and 1015 yesterday, the insurgents, using a 2.75 rocket launcher, fired seven missiles into Shwegun from Webyan range. The barrage killed two people and wounded one child in Shwegun town.

Army columns are clearing the area from where the rockets were fired.

Similarly, between 1220 and 1400 yesterday, KNU insurgents, also using a 2.75 rocket launcher, fired (?10) rounds into Myawadi. However, there were no casualties.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Communist Strength on Thai Border Viewed

BK1903070389 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] The strength of communist terrorists on the Thai side of the Malaysian border has been reduced from 3,000 to 1,000 while those throughout peninsular Malaysia now stand at less than 200.

The general officer Commander in Chief, Peninsular Malaysia, Lieutenant General Datuk Mohamed Daud Abubakar said continuous efforts were being conducted by the two countries to eliminate the communist threat.

Speaking at a news conference after the 54th Regional Border Committee meeting in Penang, he said with the gradual reduction of communist terrorists, people along the common boundary were now able to enjoy peace, harmony, and stability. He said the governments of Malaysia and Thailand were also able to carry out various socioeconomic programs, including the construction of infrastructures, new settlements, and agricultural projects.

Lt Gen Datuk Mohamed Daud, who is also the Army Corps commander, said the on-going Thai Government attractive amnesty offer had largely contributed to the surrender of communist terrorists in south Thailand.

In a joint statement issued after the meeting, the committee noted that two male unarmed communist terrorists surrendered to Thai authorities in the Yala Province recently. The committee also reported that five communist terrorist camps were captured and 68 booby traps, 2 food dumps, and 1 empty arms cache discovered all in south Thailand since its last meeting in Hat Yai in October last year.

Parliament Passes Trade Union Amendments Bill

BK2103141689 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Text] The Dewan Rakyat [House of Representatives] has passed the Trade Union Amendments Bill, which empowers the director general of trade unions to register in-house unions in a particular trade, occupation, or industry.

Tabling the bill, Deputy Labor Minister Encik [Mister] Kalakau Untol said the legality of the amendments should not be questioned anymore as it will not affect the interests of existing trade unions or those to be set up.

Encik Kalakau said the proposed amendments were discussed at meetings of the National Labor Advisory Council and its technical committee, and during dialogues with Deputy Prime Minister Encik Ghafar Baba since 1986. He explained that the recent Supreme Court's ruling pertaining to the position of in-house unions [words indistinct] the director general of trade unions in the registration of trade unions is not very clear. He said the amendments are to define more clearly its powers in the registration of trade unions. He made it clear that the amendments will not restrict the rights of unions, both in-house and national trade unions. He added that the government has no intention of weakening trade unions.

Singapore

Access to Foreign TV Programs Limited

BK2103143689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1358 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Text] Singapore, March 21 (AFP)—Singapore is to ban the sale and installation of satellite dishes for receiving television broadcasts from abroad, Minister of State for Communications and Information Mah Bow Tan told Parliament Tuesday.

Unlimited access to programs beamed by foreign TV stations could not be allowed because in developed countries commercial TV was designed to make money, but in the process might transmit harmful values, he said.

Mr. Mah reiterated the government's stand that the local media should help promote official policies.

"In developing countries, the media ... are key instruments in nation-building," he said, adding that television especially should take care to "filter out unacceptable values or harmful lifestyles."

Many Singaporean homes already receive broadcasts from neighboring Indonesia and Malaysia without specialized equipment—which also drew some expressions of concern in Parliament.

MPs [Members of Parliament] particularly highlighted Cantonese programs from Malaysia which run counter to Singapore's official Mandarin-only policy, as well as cigarette commercials in direct conflict with the government's anti-smoking policy.

Mr. Mah also reaffirmed Singapore's information policy, saying it would allow foreign journalists to cover the news here as long as they did not undermine the country's stability.

"We do not pretend we welcome all foreign correspondents with open arms," he said.

"We are not against criticism, but it would be irresponsible for us to allow untruths to undermine Singapore's stability."

Of some 4,000 newspapers and periodicals circulating in Singapore, only three were restricted, he said, referring to the ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL, the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW and ASIAWEEK.

The government slashed the local circulation of the three for allegedly interfering in Singapore's affairs.

Cambodia

Editorial Commemorates Lao Party Founding
BK2203070589 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Station editorial: "Continue To Strengthen and Expand the Bonds of Solidarity, Friendship, and All-Round Cooperation Between Cambodia and Laos Even More Firmly and Splendidly"]

[Text] This year, together with the fraternal Lao party and people, our entire people—with a most sincere spirit of solidarity and fraternal friendship—are happily marking the 34th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and the 10th anniversary of

the signing of the treaty of economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] and the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

The LPRP originated from the Indochinese Communist Party, sharing the same origin as the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] and the Communist Party of Vietnam. It was born on 22 March 1955 in the seething movement of class, freedom, and national independence waged by the Lao working class and Lao multiethnic people.

In the 34 years of its existence, firmly adhering to genuine Marxism and Leninism, having been constantly loyal to the Laos-Cambodia-Vietnam alliance of special solidarity, and carrying out correct strategic lines of leadership while educating the Lao multiethnic people on genuine patriotism and the spirit of proletarian internationalist solidarity, the LPRP has waged a resolute struggle; led the Lao people to fight and successively defeat the French colonialists, U.S. imperialists, their lackeys, and the hegemonist-expansionists; seized independence and freedom for the nation; opened a new era in which the multiethnic Lao people have become the genuine masters of their own and national destinies; and established the LPDR on 2 December 1975.

During the past more than 13 years under the correct and wise leadership of the LPRP with Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan as the beloved and respected great leader, the Lao multiethnic people have united harmoniously, simultaneously carried out the two strategic tasks of defending and building socialism put forth by the third and fourth congresses of the LPRP, and won great victories in all fields.

The LPDR has become the sharp tool and energetic force to stimulate the implementation of all revolutionary tasks, thus firmly defending the revolutionary state power and causing the country to advance gradually toward socialism.

The state power at all levels from the central region to remote and outlying localities in the countryside has been firmly strengthened.

In the defense of the nation, political security, and social order, the Lao Army and people—constantly enhancing their revolutionary vigilance—have successfully smashed all activities of the counterrevolutionaries and defeated the dark schemes and aggressive and sabotage activities of the various international reactionary forces.

The effort to restore and expand the economy is bringing genuine changes to Laos, which used to be a backward country having only small-scale economic establishments, being dependent on nature, and suffering serious destruction in the protracted war.

At present, the Lao multiethnic people are effectively implementing the resolutions of the Fourth LPRP Congress, which has set forth the second 5-year plan—1986-90—in order to rapidly realize the advance of the Lao revolution toward socialism.

In the diplomatic field, the LPRP has for the past several years highly and constantly upheld the banners of national independence and peace; linked the theory of patriotism with the theory of proletarian internationalism; ceaselessly enhanced the strategic alliance and all-round cooperation with the PRK and the SRV; increased solidarity and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries; and actively contributed to the struggle for peace, independence, democracy, and social progress in the world.

Together with the PRK and SRV, the LPDR has put forth many goodwilled initiatives and proposals aimed at settling the remaining regional problems through dialogue, thus leading toward building Southeast Asia as a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

The LPDR's goodwilled attitude and constructive stance have been broadly welcomed and supported by public opinion in the region and the world, thus causing the LPDR's prestige to soar even highly in the international arena.

Marking the 34th founding anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the signing of the treaty on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the PRK and LPDR, the Cambodian people are very happy for the great victories won in all fields by the fraternal Lao people in the past years in their tasks to defend and build the beautiful Lao motherland. The Cambodian people regard these victories as their own.

At the same time, the Cambodian people are very proud of the fruitful development of the relations of friendship, solidarity, and all-round cooperation between Cambodia and Laos. Based on the treaty of economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation signed on 22 March 1979 and the spirit of the statement of the Lao-Cambodian-Vietnamese summit in Vientiane, the Cambodian-Lao cooperation and mutual assistance on the basis of equality and mutual benefits have been expanded ceaselessly in all forms, thus effectively contributing to building and improving the livelihood of the people of each country.

With each passing year, agreements and protocols on bilateral cooperation between the parties, states, mass organizations, and specialized sectors and units of the two countries have been signed with growing quantity and quality, thus bringing about new efficiency in stimulating the fulfillment of the targets of the revolutionary tasks, particularly the first 5-year socioeconomic restoration and development plan of 1986-90 set forth by the fifth KPRP congress and the second 5-year plan put forth by the fourth LPRP congress.

Once again, on this occasion of the 34th founding anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the signing of the treaty on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the PRK and LPDR, our entire party, army, and people would like to express our deepest thanks to the fraternal Lao party, army, and people for their most valuable support and assistance given to the wonderful rebirth of the Cambodian people in the past as well as at the present time.

We pledge to continue strengthening and enhancing even more firmly and splendidly the bonds of special solidarity and all-round cooperation among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos, in general, and between Cambodia and Laos in particular—for the cause of firmly defending and building each country to make it even more prosperous.

Release of Captured Thai Nationals Reported
*BK1803072689 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1101 GMT
18 Mar 89*

[Text] Phnom Penh, 18 Mar (SPK)—The People's Republic of Kampuchea on Wednesday released 92 Thais who illegally entered Cambodian territory to fish or extract precious stones.

The hand-over ceremony was held on Kaoh Kong island. Earlier, Cambodia released 286 Thais.

At the same time, Cambodia also handed over remains of a Thai, who died of malaria during his infiltration into Cambodian territory.

Decision on Rewards to 'Misled People' Reported
*BK1603120589 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1100 GMT
16 Mar 89*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK March 16—The Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has made public a decision on the rewards bestowed on soldiers and officers of the Khmer opposition factions who break with their rank and return to the nation's fold.

In the light of the party and state's policy of clemency toward people misguided by the enemy propaganda, the new decision has put forth some encouragement toward the returnees bringing along weapons, and toward the persons who have made the contributions to the conversion of misled people. The decision says:

—A sum of money ranging from 1,000 riel (Kampuchean currency) to 10,000 riel will be granted to any soldier or officer of the opposition factions who have returned to the nation's fold with firearms, war means, and classified documents.

—Those returnees who help the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces destroy the enemy strongholds or discover enemy's military depots will be given from 2,000-10,000 riel together with certificate of merit.

- Those returnees who rise up in arms to fight against the enemy, killing their commanders or destroying their stocks, and then reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities together with a number of soldiers can receive an amount of money up to 15,000 riel with certificate of merit.
- Those returnees who make outstanding contributions to the revolution, which cannot be decided by local authorities, will receive bigger rewards to be decided by the PRK [People's Republic of Kampuchea] Council of Ministers.

Rewards for weapons handed by the returnees over to the revolutionary authorities are ranged from 1,500 to 10,000 riel according to the quality of the weapons.

Some preferential treatment including health care, funeral service in the case of death, free travels to rejoin their families, and needed commodities will be given to the returnees.

—Medals, orders, certificates of merit, letters of recommendation and a considerable sum of money will be presented to prominent individuals and units who make contributions toward the persuasion of the misled people to return to the nation's fold.

—State workers, army men, militiamen or individuals who succeed in persuading misled persons to join the revolution will be presented with 500 riel. The sum will be double if the misled person held a certain post in the enemy rank. Any person who discovers weapons of the enemy and hands them to the authorities will be rewarded accordingly.

The PRK Council of Ministers urged all public services, especially the Ministries of National Defense, Interior, and Finance and the National Committee for the National Conversion of the Misled People to take great efforts to successfully implement this decision.

Sihanouk Denounces Nguyen Co Thach, Hun Sen
BK2003051489 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] On 10 March, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk denounced the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets in Phnom Penh for sabotaging efforts in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. The Samdech branded puppet Hun Sen as a servile lackey of the Hanoi authorities. Nguyen Co Thach and his puppet Hun Sen have obstructed the reasonable settlement of the Cambodian problem.

The Samdech added that because of opposition from Vietnam and its puppets to a free and democratic election in Cambodia under the control and supervision of the United Nations, the Cambodian problem cannot be resolved.

Deng-Chatchai 17 Mar Meeting on Cambodia Viewed
BK2003033989 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] On the morning of 17 March in Beijing, Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Central Committee Military Commission, held talks with Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan at which they exchanged views on the Cambodian problem.

Deng Xiaoping said: we adhere to the following three principles on a settlement of the Cambodian problem:

1. The Cambodian problem should be resolved by political means and the prerequisite is the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.
2. Power should be exercised by a quadripartite interim government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and this should be given an international guarantee.
3. The political solution to the Cambodian problem should be based on the elimination of various factors which will create a civil war in Cambodia.

China maintains that the four Cambodian parties should reduce their military strength.

Deng Xiaoping stressed that the Cambodian problem is very complicated and the focal point of the issue is the Vietnamese aggression against and occupation of Cambodia. We want to solve the Cambodian problem but we will not help the aggressors. The issue of pivotal importance is the Vietnamese military withdrawal from Cambodia. Such a withdrawal means that all forces formed by Vietnam must be withdrawn from Cambodia, including the tens of thousands of Vietnamese troops in the ranks of the puppet Heng Samrin army and the Vietnamese immigrants who are hidden in Cambodian militia units. The presence of Vietnamese citizens in Cambodia could create civil war. Along with this, a four-party provisional Cambodian government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk should be set up. Currently, Vietnam is getting cocky. Whether its words are plausible or not can only be judged by its deeds. The Cambodian problem must be settled cleanly to avoid a situation like the current one in Afghanistan. China and Thailand have a close cooperation regarding the Cambodian issue. We hope for the continuation of the cooperation.

Chatchai Chunhawan totally endorsed the three principles of Deng Xiaoping.

SRV Troops Said To Move Border Markers
BK1903061289 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] On 3 March, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors moved our border markers in Mondolkiri Province. The border markers were moved to [name indistinct]; from O Svai to (O Rovey Khang Leu) and toward (Sre Phum) in Kev Seima District; and toward O Reang

village and Phnum Dek to Route 14. The Vietnamese now use these points as marking the new border. In terms of distance, the border markers were moved inside Cambodian territory between 30 and 40 km.

This shows that, along with occupying Cambodia with more than 100,000 of their aggressor troops, the Hanoi Vietnamese have also plundered Cambodian territory. They are doing this in Kampot and Takeo Provinces. Territory in Romenh in the Kompong Ampil area and in (Thnaot Chong Srang) in Kaoh Andet District has also been annexed by the Vietnamese who use Prek Thmei as the new border after the Vinh Te canal. In Prey Veng Province the Hanoi Vietnamese also moved border makers to annex Cambodian territory.

In general, the Vietnamese enemy has moved border markers to annex Cambodian territory from 10, 20, and 30 km inside Cambodia. In Mondolkiri Province, however, the Hanoi Vietnamese moved border markers 30 to 40 km deep inside Cambodian territory. Since 1967, the Hanoi Vietnamese have claimed that the Dak Dam area is under dispute.

Furthermore, along the coast, the Vietnamese aggressors have redrawn the borderline to annex Cambodian islands and a large part of Cambodia's continental shelf.

This is a crime to annex Cambodian territory and exterminate the Cambodian race perpetrated by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors. This shows that the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin puppets are out-and-out lackeys of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy. The Hanoi Vietnamese can order these puppets to do whatever they like. They have ordered these puppets to sign agreements to legitimize the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors' annexation of Cambodian territory. These puppets know nothing. The people and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea have again and again declared that whatever Vietnam's puppets have done, any agreement or treaty they have signed, are null and void.

700 SRV Families Said Settled in Mondolkiri
BK2103015089 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] According to a report from our National Army of Democratic Kampuchea stationed and operating in Mondolkiri Province, at the beginning of March the Vietnamese Hanoi aggressors twice sent armed Vietnamese nationals to grab land and settle in Mondolkiri Province. The first batch of 500 families was sent to settle in Dak Dam village, Phnum Dek, O Reang village, and La Pati in O Reang District of Mondolkiri Province. The second batch of 200 families was sent to settle in Chi Neng village of Sre Preah commune along Prek Chhlong stream in Kev Seima District of Mondolkiri Province.

All these Vietnamese nationals hold Cambodian identity cards and documents allowing them to travel and do business.

This is the most perfidious maneuver of the Vietnamese Hanoi aggressors who will never abandon their aggressive strategy to annex our Cambodian territory to Vietnam. They have continued to cling on to Cambodia and keep sending more Vietnamese nationals to grab our land and settle in Cambodia. They have drawn maps in which Cambodian territory has been annexed to Vietnam.

Unity Viewed as Common Desire of Cambodians
BK2203015489 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Station editorial: "Great National Union is the Common Desire of the Entire Cambodian Nation and People"]

[Text] Leaders of the Cambodian national resistance forces, namely Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian nation, leader of the Cambodian national resistance forces, and president of Democratic Kampuchea; His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK]; and His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, held a special meeting in Beijing on 12 March in order to review the all-round situation of the Cambodian people's struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators.

The three leaders issued a joint statement saying that in order to quickly liberate the nation, the three leaders of the Cambodian national resistance forces pledge to continue constantly strengthening their sacred unity. On the political and diplomatic fronts, the three parties of the national resistance movement pledge to display their unity by speaking one and the same language. All of them pledge to strengthen unity, cooperation, and mutual assistance among the three armies of the Cambodian national resistance forces in their struggle against the Vietnamese colonialist troops, and to more vigorously intensify this struggle through every means inside the country. All of them pledge not to do anything harmful to this sacred unity. In this spirit, all of them decided to set up a high council for national defense with Democratic Kampuchean President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its chairman and Their Excellencies Son Sann and Khieu Samphan as vice chairmen.

The joint statement stated: With a high sense of responsibility for the sacred unity of our people and among the three armies of the Cambodian national resistance forces, which is vitally significant to the survival of the Cambodian nation now and in the future, the three leaders of the Cambodian national resistance forces

decided to adopt a common political program based on Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan and the modalities for implementing this peace plan.

This joint statement clearly shows that the three forces of the Cambodian national resistance movement and all our Cambodian patriots of all political tendencies are uniting more closely than ever before in their common struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors and race exterminators. All of them are well aware that currently the sole threat to the survival of the Cambodian nation and race is Vietnam which is occupying and committing aggression against Cambodia through its hundreds of thousands of troops and more than 1 million Vietnamese nationals. They realize that great national union is the sacred measure both in the current struggle for national liberation and in the defense of the Cambodian nation and race in the future.

The growing unity of the three forces of the Cambodian national resistance has caused all our Cambodian people both inside and outside the country to be very happy and become even more confident in the future of their national liberation struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors.

They pledge to stand firmly behind the CGDK, with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as president of Democratic Kampuchea, and to launch all kinds of activities in order to strengthen and expand this sacred, great national union even more firmly and vigorously intensify their national liberation struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors until the Cambodian problem is settled through political means in accordance with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan.

Indonesia

Military Urged To Clarify Reports of Rioting
*BK2203103689 Hong Kong AFP in English 0950 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Excerpt] Jakarta, March 22 (AFP) - A prominent human rights lawyer Wednesday called on the Indonesian military to clarify reports of rioting and deaths in a remote eastern village as the government said 45 people had been arrested in the area.

In a letter to Armed Forces Commander General Tri Sutrisno, Johannes Princen said the military should clarify "reports of excesses involving the deaths of the local villagers near Bima on Sumbawa Island, some 1,300 kilometres (800 miles) east of here."

"There was no death," Home Minister Rudini said when asked by journalists Wednesday about the reports.

"A total of 45 people (in Bima) were arrested," he said in the first official comment on the reports from Bima which have been reaching the Indonesian capital in the past week.

Mr. Princen said "the spreading of rumours is a bad thing especially if it involves serious human right violations," in his letter, a copy of which was made available to AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Dutch-born lawyer heads the Institute for the Defence of Human Rights, a small but vocal group that has often been at odds with the government.

Unconfirmed reports indicated 11 people died in the Bima incident which Mr. Princen told AFP resembled a clash between the military and a Muslim group in the southern Sumatra province of Lampung last month. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Chief Views ASEAN Defense
*BK2103103589 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0934 GMT
21 Mar 89*

[Text] Pakanbaru (Riau), March 21 (OANA-ANTARA) - The Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) commander, General Tri Sutrisno has stated that in having no military pact, ASEAN member countries can establish bilateral cooperation in the defence and security sector in a bid to strengthen each country's resilience and the regional resilience.

"Without a military pact, we in fact can cooperate flexibly," General Tri Sutrisno told the press upon arrival here Tuesday morning.

The commander of the armed forces is on a visit here to inaugurate an air weapon range (AWR) in Siabu, about 2,503 miles southwest of here, to be jointly used by the Indonesian Air Force and the Singapore Air Force.

Tri Sutrisno said that the AWR covering an area of 10,850 hectares, can also be utilized by other members of ASEAN, namely Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Brunei Darussalam.

He acknowledged that cooperation in the defence and security field among the ASEAN member countries by using a similar weaponry system can cut each state's cost.

He explained that the ASEAN nations are now heading for military weapons standardization, for instance in the usage of M-16 guns and F-16 fighters, aimed at, among other things, making maintenance easier.

The usage of the Siabu AWR was initiated by [Minister of Defense & Security] [General] L.B. Murdani and Singapore Junior Minister [for Defense] B.G. [Brigadier General] Lee.

They discussed the construction of the AWR in 1987, while its memorandum of understanding was signed in February 1988, Tri Sutrisno explained.

The Siabu AWR is to be inaugurated on Wednesday (March 22) in the presence of Indonesian Minister of Defence and Security L.B. Murdani, B.G. Lee, and the Singapore Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Winston W. L. Choo.

Tri Sutrisno explained that the Siabu AWR (which has been built by the ABRI headquarters) would be jointly managed by ABRI and the Armed Forces of Singapore with the budget equally shared by both parties.

The AWR can be reached from Singapore in about 30 minutes and is the most sophisticated of its kind in Southeast Asia.

The cooperation contract pertaining the AWR between the two sides takes effect for five years and can be renewed.

The inauguration of the AWR will be marked by the signing of a plaque by General Tri Sutrisno and by Lieutenant General Choo who arrived in Pakanbaru moments after the arrival of his Indonesian counterpart on Tuesday.

Shortly after the ceremony on Wednesday, Gen. Tri will cut a ribbon and his Singapore counterpart will sound a siren.

There will also be demonstrations by Indonesian and Singapore warplanes.

On Wednesday afternoon, B.G. Lee will return to Singapore while Lt. Gen. Choo and Minister Benny Murdani will fly to Jakarta.

Gen. Tri and Lt. Gen. Choo on Thursday will sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cooperation between the armies of the two countries at the ABRI Headquarters in Cilangkap, Jakarta.

Committee Urges USSR To Stop Afghan Aid
BK2003135289 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian
1200 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] The Indonesian-Afghan People's Solidarity Committee has appealed to the Soviet Union to stop providing aid in any form to the Najibullah regime in Kabul to enable the immediate establishment of a government acceptable to the majority of the Afghan people.

The appeal was made by its general chairman, Nuddin Lubin, in a press briefing today to commemorate the 9th international day with Afghanistan which falls on 21 March 1989. He said the Soviet Union is still intervening in Afghanistan even though it officially withdrew its troops from the territory on 15 February.

Laos

PASASON Marks Party's 34th Anniversary
BK2203060589 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 22 Mar 89

[PASASON 22 March editorial: "Promote and Expand Glorious Traditions of the Party To Fulfill the Revolutionary Cause in the New Stage"]

[Text] Thirty-four years ago, on 22 March 1955, pursuing the traditions of the Indochinese Communist Party, the first congress of the party was convened in a stronghold in Sam Neua, Houa Phan Province, with the participation of some 20 outstanding comrades representing more than 400 comrade party members. During the congress, a resolution was unanimously passed on the basic revolutionary tasks of our country in the new stage following the achievement of complete victory in the struggle against the French colonialists. The participants of that congress also unanimously named the party as the Lao People's Party, or the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] at present.

The founding of the LPRP marked the basic turning point of the Lao revolution. Immediately after being founded, our party faced the new, vicious enemy—namely, the U.S. imperialists. Nevertheless, our party heroically accepted its sacred obligations in leading the multiethnic people to carry out the struggle against the imperialist aggressors. With its correct political and military guidelines and its rich and creative methods of carrying out the revolutionary cause and revolutionary war—coordinating with the combat strength of the three Indochinese countries and the strength of the socialist community and the epochal strength—and through the implementation of the strategy of using small forces to fight and defeat bigger forces, our party encouraged and mobilized the army and people throughout the country to enhance their strength and firmly carry out the struggle—thereby winning one victory after another, overthrowing each sector in each step and then marching forward to achieve complete victory throughout the country.

Following the victory, the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] was established on 2 December 1975, thus ushering in a new era—an era of independence, freedom, and the consolidation, perfection, and promotion of the popular democratic system in the step-by-step advance to socialism in our country.

Through the implementation of the two strategic tasks over the past period of more than 10 years, our party's leading capability and skills have been proved. Though it was a party founded in a colonial and semi-feudal country with backward, scattered, and subsistent economic establishments, low cultural and social levels, and unclear classification, our party has creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the practical economic and social

circumstances in the country while organizing and leading the people to fulfill the two strategic tasks in the new stage of revolution, thereby scoring firm achievements in building itself up.

Our party has appropriately coordinated genuine patriotism with socialist internationalism and creatively made use of Lenin's basic principles on party building. It has always paid attention to building itself in all three fields—namely, the political, ideological, and organizational fields. Our party was founded in accordance with the principle of democratic centralization. It has used self-criticism and criticism as the basis for development. For this reason, though facing difficult and complicated situations and serious trials, our party has successfully taken the lead in carrying out the revolution and has systematically scored achievements. At the same time, it has been increasingly developed and strengthened, beginning from the point of being a party unit attached to the Indochinese Communist Party to becoming a party with political and ideological firmness and organizational strength; from having only about 400 party members in the beginning to having more than 40,000 comrade party members at present working with many party committees and hundreds of grass-roots party units attached to all sectors of work throughout the country.

The entire Lao people are very proud of our party, in particular the party Central Committee, as well as the contingency of cadres and party members who have maintained a spirit of revolutionary enthusiasm, a spirit of serving the working people, and a sense of internal solidarity and harmony and international solidarity, all of which are considered very precious traditions of our party and regarded as an encouragement serving the confidence of the entire Lao people.

This year, the founding anniversary of the LPRP comes at the time of the 14th year of the defense, building, and development of the country, the fourth year of the implementation of the second 5-year state plan, and the year in which our entire party, Army, and people are continuously bringing into full play the resolution of the fourth party congress and other resolutions adopted by the party Central Committee with a view to realizing the new, integrated changes in various fields. This is therefore considered to be very significant.

On the occasion of this party anniversary during which the traditions and achievements of the party are reviewed, all cadres and party members are requested to strive to promote and expand the glorious traditions of the party, to build and train themselves to achieve the true revolutionary nature and qualifications, to maintain a spirit of being loyal to the party's line and policies, and raise, to an ever higher level, the abilities in translating the party line and policies into reality to meet the present requirements. This is because the new tasks, as put forth by the party, are aimed at fully making new changes in various sectors of work as stipulated in the resolution of the fourth party congress which were further concretized

in the fifth, sixth, and seventh resolutions of the party Central Committee. These are considered new, difficult, and complicated, but also honorable and glorious tasks. They are also aimed at settling the situation regarding the delay in putting into actual practice the various resolutions and the failure to introduce to the masses new viewpoints and attitudes.

In this regard, many localities and branches are still continuing to perform their work in accordance with the old styles, thus delaying the full implementation of the correct line and policies of the party. In view of this, the important duties of all cadres and party members at present are to serve the aforesaid requirements and fulfill the main tasks of the party in the present stage of revolution—namely, leading the economic and social work to step up the development and progress of the country, successfully fulfilling the plan and policy to transform the economic management mechanism, and putting into actual practice the new viewpoints and attitudes in carrying out tasks in the daily life of the masses.

To effectively fulfill these tasks, it is required that the party, cadres, and party members maintain new capabilities and important skills in addition to the line of thinking of revolutionary enthusiasm. It is also required that they maintain knowledge in the scientific and technical fields, and know how to consolidate the state apparatuses and mass organizations. They must also implement new revolutionary methods.

With regard to the issue of raising party members' qualifications, it is clearly noted in the seventh resolution of the party Central Committee that the party's political tasks in the new stage are to encourage party members to strive to raise the level of their true revolutionary nature and qualifications, raise the level of their understanding in the economic and social fields, the level of knowledge about laws as well as duties and tasks entrusted to them, and the level of working efficiency and capability in mobilizing the masses. Party members are required to raise the level of their political awareness and firmly maintain their roles as party members under all circumstances. They must always take leading roles and act as an example in implementing the line, plans, and policies of the party and laws of the state. They must place public interests above their own interests and devote all their intelligence and energies to the cause of defending and building the country. Party members must maintain the positive attitude of supporting and taking part in the cause of effecting new changes and act as examples in carrying out production business and contributing to enriching the country and themselves. They must promote ways to enrich the country and themselves on the basis of lawful production business, and not through corrupt practices of taking property of the state or collectives, or through other unlawful means.

To celebrate the 34th founding anniversary of the party in a profoundly significant atmosphere and to successfully fulfill the precious historic cause of the party—

namely, the secure defense of the country and the building of socialism—party committees at all levels and all cadres and party members must be determined to march forward; first and foremost, to effectively implement the fifth, sixth, and seventh resolutions of the fourth session of the party Central Committee; widely encourage the revolutionary movements of the masses; and step up campaigns to score achievements to welcome the forthcoming 14th anniversary of the 2 December national day and the 35th anniversary of the party.

LPRP Issues 'Instruction' on Party Anniversary
*BK2103043389 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 21 Mar 89*

[“Instruction” issued by Lao People’s Revolutionary Party (LPRP) Central Committee Secretariat to the standing party committees of all provinces and municipalities and the party committees at all levels throughout the country on the celebration of the 34th founding anniversary of the LPRP—dated 20 March 1989]

[Text] The 34th founding anniversary of the party will be traditionally observed on 22 March 1989 at a time when the entire party and masses are concentrating all physical and mental efforts as well as wisdom on translating into reality the resolutions adopted at the fourth party congress. For instance, the fifth, sixth, and seventh resolutions adopted by the fourth party Central Committee aimed at turning agriculture into a primary battlefield and by turning to the grass roots, the countryside, and mountainous regions so as to score victories for the livestock-raising and crop-cultivation season this year in order to produce an estimated 1.6 million metric tons of paddy; by transforming natural subsistence agriculture in our country into goods-producing agriculture; by gradually building and developing production forces; by launching the new economic structure, new management mechanisms, and new methods in organization and implementation; and by gradually consolidating, upgrading, and developing the popular democratic system so that the country will attain tranquillity and the people will have confidence in carrying out their livelihood to gradually improve their living conditions.

Taking into consideration the above-mentioned situation, the party Central Committee Secretariat has issued this order instructing the party committees at all levels to organize the celebration of the party founding anniversary this year in a simple form by launching realistic movements to score achievements to welcome the occasion as follows:

1. We must educate the entire party and masses to clearly appreciate that the LPRP is the genuine Marxist-Leninist party, which has pursued a correct line, has clear-sighted leadership, and has adopted strategies and tactics that conform to the reality in each period of the Lao revolution.

2. We must organize discussion sessions for cadres, party members, and people to study and appreciate the seventh resolution adopted by the party Central Committee so as to allow them to clearly understand and appreciate the achievements scored in the past year; to clearly understand the party's views toward the people and the Lao revolution during the present period; to clearly understand their own duties; to actively seize every opportunity to turn to the grass roots; to assign and guide each family in mapping out plans to implement agricultural and forestry development projects this year; to launch a two-pronged campaign to serve agricultural and forestry work; to encourage people to fight against drought and to grow starch crops; and to promote educational, cultural, and public health movements as outlined in the seventh resolution adopted by the party, including the need to implement an open-door policy.

3. In celebrating the party founding anniversary this year, through the movement of turning to the grass roots and to promote movements in carrying out various tasks, we must pay attention to actively consolidating and further improving the quality of party units, party members, and party organizations at various levels in accordance with the contents and spirit of the party's seventh resolution. To do this, the contents of the seventh resolution and the qualitative standards of party members and party units must be scrutinized to determine the strong and weak points in the training and building [of cadres] in the past year; criticism must be profoundly carried out; and model party units and model party members must be selected. After that, a campaign must be launched to build more party units and model party members. Measures must be adopted to prevent party units from becoming weak and party members from becoming inefficient in performing their duties.

4. We must pay attention to effectively carrying out national defense and public security maintenance work and work in defending the party and cadres, urging them to maintain a high sense of vigilance toward all sinister schemes of the enemies aimed at undermining and sabotaging the revolution and our party.

In organizing the celebration of the party founding anniversary this year, we must regard the content of the work of educating [the cadres, party members, and people] as a primary task and the building of party units as a principal concern. The celebration must be carried in a simple manner, and a waste of time and money must be avoided.

5. The following slogans must be used this year on the occasion of the celebration the party founding anniversary:

Actively consolidate party foundations and party members to become qualitatively firm and strong!

Turn to the grass roots, the countryside, and mountainous regions so as to develop goods-producing agricultural and forestry work and to make this year's production season triumphant!

Long live the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]!

Long live the LPRP—the organizer and leader of all victories of the Lao revolution!

Long live the invincible Marxism-Leninism!

After receiving this instruction, the party committees at all levels must study and implement it in an effective manner.

[Dated] Vientiane, 20 March 1989 2[000c][Signed]
Khamtai Siphandon, acting on behalf of the party Central Committee Secretariat.

Philippines

Finance Minister Comments on Brady Plan HK2203100189 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Mar 89 p 11

[By staff member Arleen C. Chipongian]

[Text] The Philippine Government will ask for a smaller new loan from foreign commercial banks next month following the new United States-Japan initiatives for debt reduction to heavily indebted countries, according to Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme.

Jayme said in a briefing yesterday that the debt panel, composed of himself and Central Bank Gov. Jose B. Fernandez Jr., would possibly reduce the earlier target of asking for some \$1.6 billion to \$1.8 billion in new money from foreign commercial creditors.

The panel is scheduled to open debt negotiations with some 250 commercial banks in New York in the middle of April.

The U.S. debt plan, also called the Brady initiative after U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady, and the Japanese debt relief plan, also known as the Miyazawa-Sumita plan, have paved the way for a new approach in easing the debt problem of indebted countries like the Philippines.

The main objective of the two initiatives is to provide an indebted country with a package of new loans debt relief measures.

"With the Brady initiative, it is possible that we will now be talking of debt reduction efforts with commercial banks. This will also mean that there will be reduced foreign borrowings from banks from original targets of \$1.6 billion to \$1.8 billion in new loans covering the next two years," Jayme stressed.

Jayme indicated confidence that the Philippines would be among the first to avail itself of the debt reduction measures offered by the U.S. and Japan notwithstanding talks that Mexico and Venezuela, because of the political and economic turmoil there would be ahead of the country. [sentence as published] "Let us see who will get it first," he said.

Among the debt relief measures being considered are the credit enhancement program or provision of counterpart financing by the Japan Export Import Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), softer interest rates and longer debt repayment period, or even write-offs of some debts.

At the same time, the country's chief negotiator said that with a combination of new money and debt relief measures, the net impact for the country would also be lesser foreign exchange outflow to go to service foreign debt.

The Brady initiative has indicated that growth was essential in solving a country's debt problem and that there was need for structural reforms a flow of external resources. [sentence as published]

On the other hand, the Miyazawa-Sumita Plan will allow the Japanese government to extend counterpart financing equivalent to the new money which a heavily indebted country will avail itself of from the IMF.

Jayme said the Philippines was expected to be among the first countries to seek benefits from both initiatives.

"The Philippines is ahead of most middle income heavily indebted countries successfully carrying out its structural reform programs and has achieved a very credible level of growth and stability."

He added: "The debt management strategy adopted by the Philippine Government has correctly anticipated these developments and we will be able to pursue this new set of options since we already have in place ongoing reform programs that have resulted in one of the best performances among heavily indebted countries."

Last year, for example, the Philippine economy grew by a robust 6.7 percent while maintaining low inflation levels of eight percent.

Jayme said that in the coming debt talks with commercial creditors, the debt panel would also discuss with the foreign banks the possibility of improving on the rescheduling terms entered into by the Philippine Government with the banks in 1987.

Under this agreement, which covered \$9.3 billion in outstanding loans due from 1987 to 1988, the interest rate was pegged at ½ percentage point over the London interbank offered rate (Libor) and the amortization period was extended to 17 years.

"The probability is that all our outstanding loans will be included in the discussions for debt relief measures from commercial banks. The 1987 rescheduling agreement will also be included in the discussions," Jayme commented. The Finance chief has noted that the Government has in the past done a lot of "spade-work" to avail itself of debt relief measures with multilateral financial institutions like the World Bank and with commercial creditors.

"The Philippines, although we have never publicized many things, has done a lot of things. These things don't happen overnight. We have done not only our homework but a lot of spadework way beyond what is publicly known. Its best to wait for the results," he said.

U.S. Use of Provincial Airport Protested
HK2203095989 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 20 Mar 89 pp 1, 6

[By staff writer Dionisio Pelayo]

[Text] The Batanes provincial government is protesting what it termed as the illegal use of the province's airport by U.S. military forces.

Batanes Gov. Telesforo Castillejos said the "unhampered" use of the provincial airport has resulted in the rapid deterioration of its runway.

Castillejos asked Maj. Gen. Ramon E. Montano, Constabulary chief, to call the attention of top government officials on the matter.

"I have already complained to Malacanang, but I have not received any word since I filed the complaint last December," Castillejos told Montano.

Montano inspected PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] units in the Cagayan Valley region, which includes Batanes, over the weekend.

Castillejos said he has asked the Air Transportation office personnel assigned to Batanes to close the airport whenever U.S. military aircraft arrive, "but they seem to be helpless."

"Twice a week, since I became the governor of the province, U.S. military aircraft including cargo planes and helicopters have been regularly arriving. They (Americans) are destroying our airport," Castillejos said.

He said U.S. military aircraft based in Japan regularly land in the province's air strip and even use it as a refueling station during military exercises.

If the Batanes airport were closed because of the destruction of its runway, Castillejos said, "we will be isolated from the rest of the country since the nearest point of Luzon is 20 to 25 hours by sea travel."

Castillejos said Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos has promised to look into the matter.

No More Asylum for SRV Refugees as of 21 Mar
HK2103102189 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 21 Mar 89

[Text] Starting today, arriving Vietnamese refugees will no longer be granted asylum in the Philippines. The Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] announced the decision based on an agreement reached by senior ASEAN officials at the seventh meeting of the Asean working group on Indochinese refugees held in Kuala Lumpur from 6 to 9 March.

According to the DFA, starting today, arriving Vietnamese refugees will be subject to examination and their status determined by the 1951 International Convention on the Status of Refugees. However, in carrying out this policy, the Philippine Government will respect the human rights of arriving Vietnamese refugees by providing them with temporary shelters before repatriation to Vietnam as well as allowing the UN High Commission on Refugees to speak to the refugees for possible assistance.

Meanwhile, the DFA also reported that an interagency task force on international refugee assistance and administration is drawing up policies and guidelines for the implementation of this new rule.

Foreign Contributions to Aid Plan Viewed
HK2103045589 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 21 Mar 89 p 10

[By reporter Maria Stella F. Arnaldo]

[Text] Italy may be extending financial assistance amounting to "roughly" US\$270 million to the Philippines as part of its contribution to the \$10-billion Philippine aid plan [PAP].

Roberto Carpano of the Italian embassy's Cooperation for Development unit told BUSINESS WORLD that the amount is being discussed actually as part of the proposed second Bonalumi protocol of understanding.

The first protocol, sponsored by Sen. Gilberto Bonalumi, the Italian undersecretary of state for economic development for Asia, was signed in 1986 to support various Philippine developmental projects in the fields of agriculture, energy, information, health services and education. On top of this, \$50 million was also granted—as an addendum to the first protocol—to fund comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program projects in Mindanao.

However, Mr Carpano noted the confusion that still exists about PAP, making the Italian Government still unsure of its stand on the multilateral aid program.

Although a lot of foreign countries have signified their support to the PAP, he said, the support of his Government depends on the kinds of projects to be submitted by the Philippines for funding.

At the very least, since the Philippines and Italy are already discussing the outline for the second Bonalumi protocol (which the Philippines wants to be in the form of grants), he said, the amount to be extended under this bilateral agreement could very well be his Government's contribution to the PAP. The second protocol of understanding, when signed, is also supposed to cover three years beginning 1990 or 1991.

Economic Planning Secretary Solita Monsod told BUSINESS WORLD that Sen. Bonalumi will be arriving next month to formalize the second protocol. She said the Italian official promised that the second protocol would at least be as much as the first.

The Philippines, she said, is pushing for the funding of rural development projects nationwide under the second protocol.

So far, only U.S. President George Bush has committed \$200 million to the PAP, although this still has to be approved by the U.S. Congress. Other countries such as Japan, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Singapore, Australia, etc., have signified support for the aid program.

Mr Carpano said that until now, there are no clear definite policies and projects outlined for the aid program. "What is PAP?" is a statement which describes the Italian Government's uncertainty about the program, he said.

He added that his Government would also like to know whether previous aid given to the Philippines is to be considered as contribution to the PAP.

Italy is among those developed countries which regularly extend aid to the Philippines. Mr Carpano cited the first protocol covering the years 1988 to 1991.

By the last year, the PAP is supposed to be on line—will this be considered as part of the Italian Government's contribution to PAP, the embassy official asked.

Mr Carpano's question compliments the belief of some Cabinet officials that PAP funding is largely a "repackaging" of all projects already being negotiated with foreign donor countries.

When told about the Italian Government's so-called PAP contribution—actually the second protocol being negotiated with Sen. Bonalumi—a Cabinet official commented: "Everything is contribution to PAP."

He added that the PAP is actually a re-packaging of projects already being proposed for foreign funding by the Philippines, to this extent, "we have become victims of a gigantic (public relations) hoax."

The official said: "Look at it from your point of view. What is the additional thing so far? A possible \$200 million (from the U.S.), and everybody's talking \$10 billion! It's just a re-packaging and we're selling our souls for that! I said, my God, this PAP better be good because we're sacrificing so much!"

Aquino Gives Speech on Army Anniversary
*HK2103024589 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0143 GMT 21 Mar 89*

[Speech given by President Corazon Aquino at the Philippine Army's 92d anniversary rites at Fort Bonifacio—live—in English.]

[Text] Major General Mariano Adalem, Secretary Fidel Ramos, Secretary Rafael Ileto, General Renato de Villa, your excellencies of the diplomatic corps, the officers, men and women of the Philippine Army, fellow workers in government, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Today we celebrate the 92d anniversary of the Philippine Army as a prelude to celebrating the 91st anniversary of our independence. This is fitting and proper, for in celebrating Army Day, we (?reflect, again on the martial virtues that make national independence meaningful and real. It is not surprising that we are celebrating the creation of our country's army before we celebrate the anniversary of its birth. For everything that is good can be born only after a struggle. And all struggles are won only by courage, by daring and hardiness, by feats of arms; in short, by the acts and virtues that make up an army.

The Army that was created 92 years ago defeated one imperial power and lost only by the betrayal of a friend. Yet that Army went on to fight the wars of that uncertain friend, and fought them with honor. The Army fought in Bataan but did not fall with it. It carried on by guerrilla action to keep hope alive until the country's liberation. The Army's battalion combat teams fought in Korea. Its civic action teams helped in Vietnam. It has fought continuously—perhaps longer than any other army in the world, for we have had a festering insurgency. Yet, where larger and better-stocked armies failed, it broke one communist insurgency. And it is taking the initiative again against a second rebellion.

Yes, the Army today has quite a tradition to live up to. What is an army you might ask? An army is the people in uniform, I will answer, as others before me have answered. This is an unchanging truth. The army is the image of the state and the reflection of the society it defends. The state that fields the army today is a state dedicated entirely to the well-being of our people, to the material progress of our country, and to the increase of our influence for good abroad. The society which that

army defends is not yet what we would wish it to be, but it is moving in the direction of being a society worthy of the sacrifices the army makes daily in lives, in (?crippling moves), in long absences from families, and in other hardships, as it crosses the length and breadth of our land to put down its enemies.

We look to the Army to show us the (?staunch) virtues that we need to reform our society and make our country strong—honor, duty, self-sacrifice, the willingness to give all for country. As the people is the army in uniform, the army integrates itself back into the people through service—service on every level affecting the security of our community, and even through civic action, their material well-being.

Today we honor that service in the stirring example of Sergeant Francisco Grampil who is this day given the Medal of Valor. Sgt Grampil is the 16th to receive this award for bravery in action, above and beyond the call of duty and human expectation. His example shows that the Filipino is equal to any challenge that arises, to any threat that can be thrown against his country and his people.

Army and society must grow together and improve together, welding might and good to make a better country for ourselves and our children. After years of confusion under a corrupt dictatorship, the Army has found its bearings in unqualified loyalty to Constitution and state, and ready obedience to the authority of the commander in chief. We have adopted the best strategy for an ever-changing situation. To advance is to win, goes the military maxim; when in doubt, attack.

That is what the new Army has done. We have taken the war back to the enemy. In 1988 alone, the Army conducted 54,702 small unit combat patrols—almost 150 patrols a day. We must now make sure that the ratio of patrols to contacts, through efficient tactical intelligence, will bring us conclusive victories. But unquestionably, this is an Army on the move again. Special operations teams dismantled the political infrastructure of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] in 1 year and won back the support of 845 communist-infested barangays. Our camps are constantly moving; our troops are harassing the enemy, preventing him from massing and disrupting the work of rebuilding the country. Our equipment is worn and battered, yet the Army fights on with whatever lies at hand. Still, it must train harder. It must acquire, in every part, the qualities that make armies formidable—long habits of regularity, great exactness of discipline, and great confidence in competent commanders.

But all in all, we can say that the fighting spirit is back, the combat skills are improving. We are building our strength, not on defense but on the attack. As Commander in Chief of the armed forces, I appeal to the Congress to give us the numbers and the logistics to carry the war to a swift and conclusive end. Even as we need

audacious troops to sweep the enemy before us, we need militias to secure the communities we have liberated against the return of the communist foe.

Above the heat and din of battle, we feel the first fresh wind of peace. Our people want to turn their energies from war, their hearts from fear, and their thoughts from mere safety to peace, to friendship, to communities, and to progress. The Army, whose 92d anniversary we celebrate today, swears to give this future of peace, amity and progress as their gift to the people from which it comes. Every soldier swears it on the code that rules his life:

I am a Filipino soldier. I will fight all forces that would destroy the freedom and independence of the Filipino people. I am a Filipino soldier. I will uphold the supremacy of civilian authority in war or in peace. I am a Filipino soldier. I will live and die in the true Filipino tradition of valor and honor, duty and loyalty. To all these, I pledge my life, my treasures, and my sacred honor. Mabuhay ang Hukbong Katihanang Pilipinas! Mabuhay ang Pilipino! [Long live the Philippine Army! Long live the Filipino!]

Aquino Gives Address to Party Convention
*HK1803044989 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0215 GMT 18 Mar 89*

[Speech by President Corazon C. Aquino before the PDP-Laban (Pilipino Democratic Party-Strength of the Nation) party national convention at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium in Manila—live in English, broadcast in progress—slantlines denote passage in Tagalog]

[Text] ...Juanito Ferrer, Attorney Augusto Sanchez, Secretary Raul Manglapus, Senator Santanina Rasul, officers and members of PDP-Laban, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I am happy to be here today upon the invitation of Senator Nene Pimentel. Last year, in the presence of both the Senate President and the Speaker, I told them that if I were invited by their respective parties, I would attend their conventions. And so, since Senator Pimentel invited me, I am here today. I am happy to be here today with you. [applause]

We know that the system now is a multiparty system. And the multiparty principle is intended to take in and advance every shade of opinion and every kind of interest. Yet, the result should not be a universal stand-off but rather the advancement of the nation on the broadest front if possible, never ceasing to move, because this is necessary, for there is a lot of catching up that we must do.

With due allowance to inevitable differences among leaders, parties and groups, the ground for agreement should be equally broad and compelling. We are, first and foremost, Filipinos. No one else will care for us as

we do. We are also tested friends and longtime campaigners for democracy. The enemies of freedom are powerful against each of us individually but powerless before our unity. Within the wide framework of our democratic faith, let us work together where we agree and respect each other where we do not agree. And let us never doubt each other's patriotism.

The deepest concerns of your party are among the most pressing issues that I have addressed. We have pushed hard for the kind of regional autonomy that will improve the living standards of the communities involved, compensate for their weaknesses and build upon their strength. We are not for the kind of autonomy that will merely perpetuate the underdevelopment of these regions and leave their communities far behind the rest of the nation to which they must reside by bonds of indissoluble union.

As I said, we are first Filipinos before anything else. Much has been achieved in the devolution of power, authority, and control of resources on local governments. We want this enshrined in a new local government code that will be a covenant guiding the relationships between national government and local governments.

We also want to give regional autonomy to our Muslim brothers and the Cordilleras whose histories and unique cultures must be recognized as different, yet enriching the one country to which we all belong.

We have gone further in line with the Constitution to encourage the growth of nongovernmental organizations, to harness the energies and idealism of community.

We have committed ourselves to honor all our legitimate obligations. What we are seeking are repayment terms consistent with the imperatives of growth, given the growing demands of a growing population that is fired by the high expectations that go with political freedom. Thus, we have negotiated hard for fairer terms of payment. We have made our chief appeal to reason. In our economic progress lies the best assurance that we shall discharge our proper obligations.

It is the basic thrust of this government to generate the resources for our needed growth through the more efficient use of our resources and by convincing our friends abroad that we are serious about our desires for progress and are prepared to pay for it with necessary sacrifices. Thus the tax system has been reformed to enhance revenues and introduce greater equity into the system. All tax-exempt privileges were removed effective December 1986. To the extent possible, everyone should pull his own weight unless the national interest and the well-being of our people require the extraordinary assistance of government.

We shall build this country strength upon strength and to the extent we can, without nurturing any weaknesses. To that end, we shall gradually open our economy to the full range of competition, strong in the confidence that we shall make the grade.

Transparency is the first principle of democratic government before which all other considerations must bow. For we have the greatest confidence that the people will always understand what is foremost in their affairs: the government of their country and determination of their future. Thus, ongoing negotiations on international security and on financial and economic affairs, particularly the foreign debts, had been thrown to public debates. The need for a wider and more formal exchange of views on this critical issue is recognized. But at the end of the road, government has had to make decisions, not the best in a perfect world, but the best, I can say with confidence, in the imperfect circumstances in which our country finds itself today.

The country's natural resources must be preserved and developed for what is a country if not its natural wealth and its people. The devastation that has been visited by the greed of commerce, the corruption of officials, and the ignorance of men on our fair country has got to stop. Floods and other natural calamities signal that it is almost too late. Extraordinary measures are needed to stop the denudation of our forests, the pollution of our waters and the poisoning of our air, and turn the tide of devastation into the progressive recovery of the ancient wealth and beauty of our land.

Equally, we must regain the preeminence we enjoyed as one of the best and most widely-educated nations in the world. The mind is the best resource of a country, and if we do our work well, it is potentially infinite. We have achieved near universal education at 98.5 percent and are working hard to improve its quality. We have introduced free high school education, yet we recognize that we are still far behind in the wide proficiency and the hard sciences that is key in the quest for modernization. We must work together to fill this gap.

We are committed to the complete and meaningful implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law. The law was fully debated and every interest of the land was considered. The law contains the irreducible minimum of land justice for the farmers. The implementation of the law is my responsibility and it will be done to the letter.

We recognize poverty and injustice as at the root of insurgency. The first is buried deep in the structure of our economy and the second, in the attitude of officials and the institutions of society. The structural reforms that we have been implementing have started to bear fruit in an economy once again on the move, in noticeable improvements in living standards, in gradually

pulling out the roots of poverty. More recent measures seek to unleash by deregulating the economy our people's boundless ability to generate wealth.

While the reform of the justice system is properly the domain of a coequal branch, the magnitude of the problem of judicial delay and corruption calls for the combined efforts of all the branches to meet this basic demand of community which is also the first principle of political community—justice. Education must be geared to sharpening our people's awareness of their rights.

I have given some of my thoughts and outlined the initiatives I have already taken in areas of common concern. I understand that you will proceed from here to discuss these issues further in the light of new developments and your own experiences at the grass roots. I look forward to the results of your discussion for I believe that there is much that Filipinos can learn from each other.

I am pleased to be part of this search for the best approaches to the future we all desire for our country. I hope that we can continue to share the common ground of patriotism that the presence of so many here has opened up.

Before politics, I believe, country must come first and we must show that today and everyday of our lives.

I thank you again. [applause] I thank you again for inviting me here today and may I appeal again that, in spite of differences in political parties, perhaps all of us Filipinos can unite where the interest of our country is concerned.

/Thank you very much and good morning to you all./ [applause]

Editorial Welcomes Resurrection of PDP-Laban
HK2103043989 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 21 Mar 89 p 4

[Editorial: "PDP-Laban (Pilipino Democratic Party-Strength of the Nation) Offers a Welcome Contrast"]

[Text] The resurrection over the weekend of the PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Strength of the Nation] as a political party is welcome news indeed. An energized PDP-Laban signals the return of the politics of principle and issues, the kind we lamented might have been killed when the mammoth Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] was organized last year.

Among the legitimate political parties in the country today, PDP-Laban is one of the few that is guided by an ideology. Its commitment to "theism, humanism, enlightened nationalism, consultative and participative democracy and democratic socialism" instead of personalities has attracted a wide grassroots base since it was founded in 1982. As proof of its seriousness as a party

with an ideology, aspirants to PDP-Laban have to undergo an eight-hour seminar and deepening sessions on the principles the party stands for thus ensuring some form of ideological purity.

After the departure of the dictator, however, PDP-Laban suffered setbacks. It will be recalled that the party lost some of its idealistic sheen when traditional politicians Ramon Mitra and Jose Cojuangco took over its leadership. Later, when Mitra and Cojuangco organized the LDP, they took with them the high-profile politicians of PDP-Laban, the governors and congressmen.

For a while it was beginning to look as if Philippine politics would be ruled mainly by alliances of convenience. The LDP, which was organized by former PDP-Laban officials Speaker Ramon Mitra and Rep. Peping Cojuangco to unite all politicians willing to support the status quo, has become the vehicle by which discredited personalities of the old regime have made their political come-backs.

In the same manner, the newly-reorganized Nacionalista Party of the Laurels and Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile has become just another haven for the various marginalized forces of the opposition. Marcos loyalists, fallen away Coristas [Pro-Cory Aquino people] and intractable KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan—New Society Movement] stalwarts make up the membership of this warmed-over chop suey of politicians from a few seasons back whose only basis for unity is their common opposition to President Aquino.

Thus, the "purified" PDP-Laban led by the likes of Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, former public works secretary Juanito Ferrer and former labor minister Augusto Sanchez and painstakingly reorganized over the past 18 months, provides a stark contrast.

At its convention over the weekend, PDP-Laban showed that it intends to be a significant voice in the current debates over the burning issues of the day. The body approved resolutions calling for the removal of U.S. military bases in the country by 1991, a pro-people debt payment scheme, the upholding of local autonomy, cooperativism and self-reliance, the dismantling of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units and the creation of a citizens army instead, and the establishment of human rights courts in every region.

With the return of PDP-Laban, we expect the level of political discussion to raise above deference to certain personalities and finally tackle the merits and demerits of issues. For too long now, the political arena has been dominated by one person—the President—who has used her popularity and the presidency to persuade law makers to support her programs and positions on various issues.

PDP-Laban's reappearance, even as a member of the ruling coalition, augurs well for the introduction of principled and informed debates on the problems that vex our society.

Final Security Measures Drawn Up for Polls
*HK2003054389 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 20 Mar 89 pp 1, 24*

[By Wilma N. Yamzon]

[Text] Officials of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) drew up final measures yesterday for the deployment of about 15,000 Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) members and Citizen Military Training (CMT) cadets who will act as peacekeepers during the March 28 barangay elections.

Col. Oscar Florendo, AFP deputy chief for civil-military operations, said the AFP and the Commission on Elections (Comelec) mapped out strategies to ensure peaceful and orderly elections throughout the country.

Florendo, also the head of the Election Monitoring and Assistance Center at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, said the military and Comelec assessed the peace and order situation in the country, focusing on the Visayas where many barangays have been identified as "hot spots."

He said Comelec Commissioner Haydee Yorac, head of the joint Comelec-AFP team for the Visayan region, met with regional directors of the poll body and military commanders to prepare the final list of "hot spots" for close monitoring in the next few days.

Last week, the military identified more than, 17,000 barangays as potential "hot spot" in eight regions in the country.

The number did not include three towns and two districts in Metro Manila described as "dangerous zones."

Military officials expressed fears that election-related or insurgency-triggered hostilities may occur before, during, or immediately after the elections.

The eight potential "hot spots" are Regions 8 (Eastern Visayas), 12 (Central Mindanao), 5 (Bicol), 1 (South-eastern Mindanao), 6 (Western Visayas), 9 (Western Mindanao), 10 (Northern Mindanao), and 2 (Cagayan Valley).

In Metro Manila, Las Pinas, Pasig, and Muntinlupa have been pinpointed by the military as possible dangerous areas.

Florendo said CAFGU members, composed of volunteers, will help in the operations of the regular forces of the AFP in certain localities to maintain local security, law and order on Election Day.

In a related development, Gen. Renato S. de Villa, AFP chief of staff, urged military personnel and CAFGU members to serve the people, warning that he will not tolerate abuses of any kind, particularly those committed against civilians.

With only nine days before Election Day, military and comelec officials are busy preparing plans for clean, honest, and free barangay elections.

The AFP said it will deploy more troops and CAFGU teams in identified "hot spots" in the wake of communist rebels' threats to attack military posts and civilian establishments to ensure victory for their candidates.

During yesterday's meeting, Yorac reiterated a previous government policy on the use of CAFGU and CMT members, saying that they play a vital role in helping the government keep an orderly election.

Commanders of the PC [Philippine Capital Regional Command (Capcom) and the National Capital Regional Defense Command (NCRDC) activated "Oplan Sunflower '89," a special security measure for Metro Manila before and during elections.

Second Poll Candidate Killed
HK2203094989 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 22 Mar 89

[Text] Nolan Sison of Mobile 22 reports:

[Begin recording] A businesswoman barangay official candidate in Quezon City was mercilessly shot to death by unidentified men in an area considered by the Commission on Elections as one of the hot spots. The investigators identified the woman as Iluminada Galupe, 53, residing in 47 Santan Street, barangay Payatas, Quezon City. She sustained multiple gunshot wounds in various parts of the body. She was shot by two gunmen while working in her office at the Payatas Academy, Ilang-ilang Street, Area A, Quezon City at around 1100 today. Witnesses related that the suspects barged into her office and started shooting her while the victim was at her desk. The two men armed with pistols immediately left the scene of the incident and boarded a waiting Ford Cortina car that speeded to Rodriguez Town, formerly known as Montalban Town. The third suspect was a lookout man and driver of the getaway car.

Quezon City police operatives are investigating the case. There is a possibility that the motive of the killing is the victim's involvement in a controversial sale of land in Payatas. Investigators are not disregarding politics as one of the motives because Galupe is one of the leading candidates in the forthcoming barangay polls in which 50 candidates are vying in that area. The police also claim that barangay Payatas is one of the hot spots and they will concentrate their forces there. Galupe's murder is the second incident related to the coming elections, and she is the second candidate killed in Quezon City.

Earlier, a barangay official, Quintin Carpio, 46, was shot dead by two armed men in Gana Compound, barangay Unang Sigaw, while delivering a speech before political leaders and supporters. He sustained bullet wounds in the head from a .45 caliber gun. [end recording]

Misuari Decries Nonadherence to Tripoli Accord
*HK1703100989 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0900 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] is reportedly trying to find out from the Aquino government if the provisions of the Tripoli Agreement are incorporated into the proposed organic act on the autonomy of Muslim Mindanao. This was revealed by MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] Chairman Nur Misuari in an interview with the Zamboanga press from Saudi Arabia this morning.

The full details from Romy Enriquez of the Philippine Foundation of Rural Broadcasters reporting in Zamboanga:

[Begin recording in English] MNLF chairman Nur Misuari today disclosed that the Organization of Islamic Conference is seeking new contacts with the Aquino administration to find out its exact position with respect to the implementation of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement granting full autonomy to 13 provinces in Muslim Mindanao.

In a long distance talk with the Zamboanga Press Club and Radio DXLA before 8 o'clock this morning, Misuari who spoke from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, assailed the Philippine Government's failure to honor its commitments with the ICO, branding the regional consultative conference's output on regional autonomy for Mindanao as being one-sided and unilateral for its failure to consult either the MNLF or the ICO. The RCC [Regional Consultative Commission] version of autonomy does not in any way conform to the intent of the Tripoli Agreement, Misuari said.

The rebel chieftan cited the omission of a regional task force that had been agreed upon in the Tripoli Agreement but which the Philippine Government has blatantly removed from its new position. He said that at the ICO conference, a resolution was approved by the 46-member organization, allowing a quadripartite commission to initiate moves that would urge the Aquino government to implement the Tripoli Agreement fully. He warned that the position of the Philippine Government has become precarious in view of its hesitance to honor its part in the accord.

Misuari accused the government of using the same tactics that former President Marcos did in maligning the MNLF by simulating alleged surrenders of MNLF freedom fighters. Those who surrendered are from the

marketplace and they have surrendered several times. They are not members of our organization, but are used as ploys by the Aquino government to embarrass us, Misuari said.

At the same time, the MNLF leader denied reports that officers of the MNLF Central Committee have been resigning, saying that the committee is a well-knit organization and to be a member of it is considered a very prestigious position.

This is Romy Enriquez of the Philippines Foundation of Rural Broadcasters and Radio Veritas-Zamboanga City. [end recording]

Warns Foreign-Owned Shipping
*HK1703050189 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 17 Mar 89 pp 1, 6*

[By staff writer Julius Fortuna]

[Text] Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) chairman, has warned that renewed fighting in Mindanao will threaten foreign-owned commercial vessels passing through the southern waters.

Misuari issued the warning when he spoke recently before the 18th Foreign Ministers Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The MNLF sits in the 46-member pan-Islamic organization as permanent observer.

"Apart from the danger posed to the MNLF and the Bangsa Moro [Moro Homeland] people (by the outbreak of hostilities), the situation can bedevil the peace and security of Southeast Asia and the emerging industrial nations in the Far East," Misuari said.

"The Bangsamoro homeland and its territorial waters are a host to two vital waterways through which the maritime commerce of Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and other countries are passing," he noted.

He said the safety of commercial vessels and oil tankers, which he said usually number over a hundred daily, will be threatened in case war breaks out between the Armed Forces and the Bangsa Moro Army.

"In time of war, these passages could be extremely dangerous to pass through, as past experiences would show," Misuari said.

The MNLF has originally laid claim to the pre-16th century Sulu Sultanate as Bangsamoro Homeland but a recent Bangsamoro congress in Manila urged the MNLF leadership to include the rest of the 23 provinces in Mindanao.

The chairman of the congress, former Tawitawi Gov. Almarin Tillah, presented to the Quadripartite Commission 12 resolutions, one of which called for a new round of peace talks with the Aquino government on the basis of the Tripoli Agreement.

During his one-hour speech, Misuari also said the MNLF could be admitted as regular member of the Organization of Islamic Countries [OIC], despite legal impediments imposed by its charter.

Saying the OIC has already recognized the Bangsamoro as a nation in previous resolutions, he argued that independence was not a pre-requisite for full membership.

He said "greater parts of the Bangsamoro homeland are already firmly under the control and administration of the MNLF and its revolutionary provisional government."

He compared the MNLF to the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), whose regular membership in the OIC, he said, "may well serve as an ideal precedent."

As the PLO was recognized by the OIC as the "sole and legitimate" representative of the Palestinians, so was the MNLF which, he said, was described as such by previous OIC resolutions.

Thailand

Property Rights Talks Planned With U.S. *BK2203080689 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 22 Mar 89*

[Text] The Commerce Ministry will formulate the Thai stand in talks with the United States on the intellectual property rights issue. Minister Subin Pinkhayarn said the decision, made by the Council of Economic Ministers earlier this week, was based on a recommendation of the International Economic Relations Policy Committee, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin.

The committee proposed a continuation of talks between Thailand and the United States over the intellectual property rights. It also suggested that the talks be focussed on all related issues as a comprehensive package, and not just on individual topics separately. The Public Health Ministry has been assigned to hold unofficial technical discussions with the U.S. Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association on drug patent issues.

Meanwhile, one of the prime minister's advisers, Narongchai Akkharaserani, said the comprehensive package approach not only benefits Thailand, but the United States as well. He said, besides intellectual property rights, other issues to be included in the negotiating package will cover U.S. farm subsidies, multilateral trade talks and GATT.

Copyright Issue Resolution Urged
*BK2003020489 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
20 Mar 89 p 6*

[Editorial: "Two Sides to the Copyright Issue"]

[Text] Let us say that Thailand came up with a spectacular scientific breakthrough—a cure for AIDS, say. And let us say that Thailand, as the world's sole producer of this miracle drug, stood to reap a windfall in profits. Now let us say that a less prosperous country—Bangladesh, for instance—took this country's formula for the wonder drug and started marketing a pirated version at a fraction of Thailand's price.

Question: Would we seek to protect our interests?

Answer: Of course we would, no matter how tough we had to be in doing so.

The above fable is not intended to depict Thailand's current position in the copyright dispute with the United States as a wrongdoer or, worse, a thief. The issue is much too complex for such black-or-white labelling. However, the hypothetical scenario is intended to demonstrate why the Americans are threatening massive trade retaliation against us, and to indicate to our officials that there are two sides to every argument, and that it is perhaps time we started paying more attention to theirs.

Essentially, when the U.S. announces its list of countries to feel wrath of Washington's punitive Section 301 at the end of May, this country does not want to be on it—and certainly it does not want to be heading the list, as some analysts have predicted.

In January we got a taste of America's punishment-by-trade when duty-free benefits were denied for approximately \$165 million worth of Thai goods exported to the U.S. Last year our total exports to America reached more than \$3 billion. Increased trade sanctions would put a considerable dent in our now-impressive economic machinery.

This is not to say that Thailand should bow to a deluge of threats from Washington and toe the American line. The U.S. should know better than to seek to assert its will on friendly nations in the form of do-it-or-die ultimatums. This country is not incorrect to spurn Washington's heavy-handed demands, for the sake of national dignity at least.

But it is in nobody's interest for the current dispute to escalate into an out-and-out trade war. And for that reason, with the momentum of our economic growth possibly at stake, it is timely for this country to take the initiative and seek progress in resolving the conflict.

The two main sticking points in the copyright row are computer software and pharmaceuticals. In the former case, our courts are currently looking into the matter, and both sides are apparently satisfied that there is movement in a positive direction.

The latter case is more problematical. The big U.S. manufacturers regard Thailand and other Asian countries as mere opportunists, stealing their profits with local imitations. On the other hand, were it not for locally-made versions of these wondrous American drugs, many Asians would not be able to afford cures to their ills. A pill that local manufacturers can produce for one baht might cost ten times as much if imported from the U.S.

However, there are solutions. One is the possibility of licensing foreign formulas to local companies. Another is an agreement to restrict prices so as to keep the product accessible to all. Perhaps a foreign company can be granted exclusive copyright protection for a certain period of years, after which time local manufacturers would automatically be given the right to offer competing brands.

Next month Thailand, the U.S. and many other countries will meet in Geneva under the auspices of the world trade body, GATT. That is the appropriate forum at which to address the copyright issue, and it is hoped that both sides will enter the meeting with open minds and greater flexibility.

It is only natural for even the best of friends to bicker from time to time. But good friends should know as well when to bury the hatchet. The time has come.

Ministry To Lobby U.S. on Air Traffic Rights
BK2203041589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
22 Mar 89 p 17

[Text] The Cabinet has instructed the Foreign Ministry to lobby Washington in an attempt to win more favourable air traffic rights to the US for Thai Airways International [THAI].

The decision was reached yesterday as the Communications and Transport Ministry and aviation authorities sought Cabinet approval in principle to terminate the Air Services Agreement (ASA) with the US if the latter refuses to provide equal rights to THAI.

Deputy Communications and Transport Minister Nikhom Saencharoen said the current ASA between Thailand and the US signed in Chiang Mai Province on December 7, 1979 put THAI at a disadvantage.

Thai aviation officials have since 1981 been trying unsuccessfully to get their US counterparts to review the ASA. The Americans have also been accused of postponing talks to delay the issue.

At present the US limits THAI to six flights a week from Bangkok to Seattle via Tokyo and Taipei. However, if THAI wanted to, it could operate additional flights to other US destinations under the existing agreement.

By comparison three US carriers—United, Northwest and Flying Tigers—already operate 21 flights a week between the US and Thailand.

Mr Nikhom said the ministry's proposal was in preparation for the next round of air talks with US authorities. "Should they still say no to our request then the Thai delegation will be ready to terminate the agreement," he said.

Meanwhile, an informed ministry source said the US would allow THAI to operate an unlimited number of flights to the US providing it used other major cities instead of Seattle as its gateway.

THAI prefers Seattle because of a good traffic volume and because earlier flights to other US destinations were less successful.

Editorial Comments on Planned Paris Peace Talks
BK1803013389 Bangkok THE NATION in English
18 Mar 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Another Informal Meeting"]

[Text] From Khmer resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk comes news of a fresh "informal meeting" on the drawn-out war in Kampuchea. The Prince plans to gather representatives from his faction, from the two other resistance groups, and the Vietnam-backed People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK) in June, in Paris.

The announcement surprised few observers here. Following deadlocked talks at Jakarta last month, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas urged the warring parties to meet within four months and report any progress. The Paris talks will fall within Alatas' time frame but the question remains: will four more months, and the change in venue, help break the Kampuchean puzzle?

Optimistic observers say yes. The four-month wait means the Khmer factions will meet shortly after their patrons do—China and the Soviet Union are scheduled to formally reopen relations in a historic summit at Beijing in May. The Soviets, and to a lesser extent the Chinese, are seen as increasingly anxious for an end to the Kampuchean fighting. The issue is certain to occupy much summit time at Beijing, time which the optimists believe may clear important roadblocks to peace.

Viewed from Beijing, or Moscow, an end to the war requires the withdrawal of Soviet-backed Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, and the cutoff of Chinese and other foreign support for the resistance armies. The Jakarta talks stalled with a clear message: peace on these "external" elements was the first, less difficult hurdle.

But for the Kampuchean parties themselves, peace is unlikely until other nagging questions are settled: What international body will supervise the terms of a settlement? What shape will the post-settlement government take, before national elections are held? How will such elections be monitored, and their legitimacy tested? "Too many ifs," a Western diplomat said after the Jakarta talks, which stumbled over the unbending positions of the PRK and Sihanouk's Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK). Those "ifs" will hang over future talks. Success may come: if the power of the Soviets and the Chinese can be brought to bear on the Khmer groups; if diplomatic icebreaking at Beijing can restore some momentum to the peace process; if Prince Sihanouk is truly feeling the pressure of time, and some tangible slip in credibility to the PRK and Prime Minister Hun Sen, as some analysts have suggested; and if Hun Sen can be persuaded of any good reason why he should share power with the resistance.

Even fragments of progress will be welcome, and of course much can happen between now and June. But past sessions have offered little reason to expect progress, and compromise, from meetings of the Kampuchean factions. And unless some of the "ifs" are untangled, this latest shift in venue, from Jakarta to Paris, may change little.

Objectives of Chatchai's India Trip Previewed
BK2103050589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Mar 89 p 3

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan will visit India from March 28 to April 1, the first by a Thai premier since the two countries established diplomatic ties 42 years ago.

General Chatchai will discuss with Indian leaders the Kampuchean problem, bilateral economic, trade and technical cooperation as well as regional cooperation among Asian-Pacific countries, according to Kopsak Chutikun, deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department.

India is the only non-communist country which recognizes the Vietnamese-installed Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh.

Mr Kopsak said yesterday that the gap that exists between Thailand and India regarding the Kampuchean issue has narrowed due to many reasons including India's improved ties with China.

Bangkok's recent contact with the Phnom Penh regime should also indicate to India that Thailand has a more open policy, he added.

Gen Chatchai is not expected to go into detailed discussions on the Kampuchean conflict since his main objective is to boost trade relations with India, said Mr Kopsak. [passage omitted]

Refugee Status Given to 5,500 SRV Boat People
BK1803021389 Bangkok THE NATION in English
18 Mar 89 p 4

[Text] Thailand has given refugee status to about 5,500 Vietnamese boat people previously considered "economic migrants" ineligible for resettlement, a senior official said yesterday. "Their status has changed since the new deadline was set by ASEAN. They are now eligible for resettlement," said Col Sanan Khachonklam, chief of the Displaced Persons Operation Centre for the Supreme Command. The six ASEAN countries announced that beginning Tuesday all further boat people arriving on their shores would be screened to determine which of them were genuine refugees and which were simple economic migrants. The definition of a genuine refugee is one who has fled his homeland because of a legitimate fear of persecution, while economic migrants are those seeking better economic conditions. Thailand previously considered all Vietnamese boat people who arrived after March 1988 as economic migrants who are not eligible for resettlement. Meanwhile, Malaysian Deputy Premier Abdul Ghafar Baba was quoted as saying yesterday Malaysia will tow back to sea all Vietnamese boat people who arrive in sturdy boats. The national news agency BERNAMA quoted Ghafar as saying the Vietnamese would be supplied with food and medicine to enable them to continue their journey, and would temporarily be taken in only if safety concerns so required.

Further on Refugee Measures
BK2203044589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
22 Mar 89 p 6

[Excerpts] Vietnamese boat and land people who arrive in Thailand after the March 14 cut-off date will be sent to Ban That Camp pending the adoption of screening measures at the International Conference on Refugees in Geneva, an informed source said yesterday.

Ever since ASEAN announced the decision to stop granting automatic refugee status to those fleeing from Vietnam, there have been no reports of new Vietnamese arrivals in Thailand to date, the source said. [sentence as published]

Officials from the National Security Council, Interior Ministry, Foreign Ministry and Supreme Command met recently to prepare for the Geneva conference scheduled for June 13-14.

The meeting agreed that all new Vietnamese arrivals after the cut-off date will be sent to Ban That Camp.

The camp, where some 5,500 Vietnamese land and boat people are being housed, is capable of receiving up to 3,000 more people, the source said.

The meeting also agreed to adopt the stance that all involved—countries of origin, countries of first asylum and third countries—must comply with the criteria for granting refugee status adopted in Geneva so as not to disrupt the entire system.

According to the criteria, third countries must accept eligible refugees who have already been screened by countries of first asylum. Those considered ineligible for resettlement after the screening will be repatriated by countries of first asylum.

Third countries must not subject those considered eligible for resettlement by countries of first asylum to further screening that may leave them stranded and become a burden to countries of first asylum.

"There will be further discussion on this topic, and the result will be reported to the Geneva forum," the source said.

—Meanwhile in Pattani, seventy-eight Vietnamese boat people landed at Wasukri Beach in Sai Buri District here early yesterday morning, police reported last night.

The boat people consisting of 21 men, 28 women, 20 boys and 9 girls were being held at Wat Suthikawat until further instructions from the Interior Ministry, police said.

The group was the second to land in this province this week after 186 boat people arrived on Saturday.

Vietnam Reportedly Seeks Thai Investment
*BK1603093989 Bangkok Domestic Service in English
0000 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] Vietnam is seeking Thai investment in fisheries, agriculture, marine and air transport, tourism and heavy industries. The investment project was discussed during a recent visit to Hanoi by the House Foreign Affairs Committee between 4 and 11 March.

Deputy committee spokesman Sutham Saengpathum said the committee had talked with senior Vietnamese authorities who told committee members that the Vietnamese Government now wants to open its country for investment, both from the domestic and foreign private sectors. Mr Sutham said that the Vietnamese have stressed that they want to improve their people's economic welfare and want good relations with Thailand. He said the committee will push for the setting up of the Thai-Vietnamese Friendship Association to promote joint ventures between the two countries.

According to Mr Sutham, the Vietnamese officials also pledged to speed up the release of Thai fishermen being detained in Vietnamese prisons.

10,000 'Illegal' Thai To Return From Singapore
*BK2203032589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
22 Mar 89 pp 1, 3*

[Excerpts] The Government will use Navy ships, Air Force planes and trains this weekend to bring home an estimated 10,000 Thais working illegally in Singapore before an amnesty for them expires at the end of this month.

But the Thai ambassador to Singapore was quoted as saying that it would be "impossible" to complete the repatriation before the deadline expires.

The Cabinet yesterday assigned Deputy Interior Minister Watthana Atsawahem to work out repatriation logistics with officials from the Foreign Ministry, Air Force, Navy and State Railway of Thailand.

The Cabinet also ordered the Interior Ministry to investigate and take harsh legal action against job placement agencies which sent the Thais to work in Singapore illegally.

Mr Watthana, Deputy Labour Department Director-General Prasong Rannanon and Labour Department Inspector-General Sinchai Riantrakunare expected to leave for Singapore today to coordinate the evacuation operation.

Two Air Force C-130 transport planes and five Navy vessels will bring back the Thais who could face imprisonment and caning once the deadline expires.

Mr Watthana said the Cabinet yesterday ordered him to call a meeting of Foreign Ministry, Air Force, Navy and state railway officials to work out the logistics of the operation. [passage omitted]

Mr Watthana said about 10,000 Thais were believed working illegally in Singapore. Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said the Thai Embassy there reported that about 9,000 Thais were waiting to return home.

Thai Labour Attaché in Singapore, Rachan Nithiprapha, told the BANGKOK POST yesterday that as many as 8,000 Thai workers were crowding his office to apply to return home.

He said more were expected to turn up at the labour office today.

There were an estimated 30,000 Thais with legal work permits in Singapore and there could be up to 10,000 illegal workers, he said.

Most of them were employed in construction projects and up to 90 percent of those who had applied to return home held fake work permits, he said.

Illegal workers are believed to have paid from 10,000 to 60,000 baht as commission through tour companies or job placement agencies, mostly situated in Hat Yai, to enter Singapore to work. [passage omitted]

Malaysian Rebel 'Spokesmen' Discuss Demands
BK2203020189 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Mar 89 p 4

[By Prayut Siwayawirot]

[Text] As Thai authorities claim progress in talks with the remaining Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] guerrillas to end their war against the Malaysian government, the question on the future of the last CPM guerrillas remains unsolved.

From their jungle camp near Yala, two leaders of a CPM unit told THE NATION in a rare interview last week that most CPM members would not leave the jungle unless they are promised amnesty and allowed a political role in Malaysia.

"Comrade Po" and "Comrade Thienming", speaking fluent Thai, said CPM negotiators were pushing for the implementation of the "1987 statement" of the movement's leader Chin Peng.

The statement called for "access" to Malaysian politics in return for an end to the guerrilla warfare, according to the two CPM members.

Army sources said negotiations with the CPM are now in the final stage and some 1,000 CPM insurgents are expected to "report" en masse to Thai authorities soon.

They said Thailand and Malaysia have been cooperating quietly in the peace efforts, and their talks on the guerrillas' future have proceeded satisfactorily although it was not clear what the Malaysian government's position is.

The sources confirmed that the insurgents, members of the CPM's pro-China faction, have demanded a political role in Malaysia in exchange for an end to their arms struggle.

The demand contrasts with that of some 700 Marxist-Leninist CPM guerrillas who defected to Thai authorities in 1987 after their request for resettlement in Thailand was met. The former guerrillas, now living in self-help resettlement camps in Yala, were afraid that they would be executed or severely punished by the Malaysian government if they returned to their homeland.

Another demand of the remaining CPM members is that the possible dissolution of the CPM must not be publicized. CPM negotiators also insisted that the end of the guerrilla war can not be called a "surrender".

Po and Thienming, who said they were "spokesmen" of the CPM leadership, acknowledged that the talks with Thai authorities are progressing "very satisfactorily though" "certain conditions" have not yet been met.

"The Communist Party of Malaya is determined to end the war and enter the real political circle," Thienming said.

"But if the talks collapse, we will continue our arms struggle."

They said the CPM could not accept Thailand's proposal that those who leave the jungle become "national co-developers" under a resettlement programme.

"We can't accept the Thai government's goodwill because we still hold on to our ideology," Thienming said.

He said CPM guerrillas have lived in jungle hide-outs in Thailand so long that they have become very close to Thai villagers.

He claimed villagers did not want his unit to leave the area for fear of possible threats from Muslim terrorists.

The CPM force was pushed across the Malaysian border into Thai jungles following a Malay-British joint military drive nearly half a century ago.

Official Reports Increased Trade With Laos

BK2203081489 Bangkok Domestic Service in English
0000 GMT 22 Mar 89

[Text] Bilateral trade between Thailand and Laos is expanding following the opening of a new border crossing point in Chiang Rai's Chiang Khong District. A local trade official says bilateral trade has risen by more than 80 percent since the opening of the checkpoint around the beginning of last month. The official says principal Thai exports to Laos include rice, seasoning powder, plastic sandals, cement, food products, bicycles, garments, medicine, sugar and zinc plates. In return, Thailand imports rubber, wood, as well as copper ore.

Joint Investment Viewed

BK1803093489 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English
1500 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] A Thai Foreign Ministry official said there was a strong possibility for cooperation in agro-industries, consumer products exchanges, and tourism development between Thailand and Laos. Foreign Ministry Deputy Director of Information Department Pratyathawi Tawethikun said Lao officials meeting in Phattaya over the weekend with Thai officials said there was good prospect for cooperative efforts in agro-industry areas on an interchangeable basis, while consumer goods such as bicycles, shoes, and other products from Laos have good market potential in Thailand. Laos is very interested in benefiting from our tourism development experience in such areas as related infrastructure and communication

development and investment in the construction of new hotels, he said. The Laotian Government is looking at the possibility of joint ventures with Thai investors on a 70-30 percent proportion, with the Thai side (shouldering the high investment). He said the only point of concern they have as regard joint investment is the fear that the Laotian Government might nationalize industries at a future date, and as Thai investors are showing interest, they need some assurances that their investment will be safe.

Businessmen Warned About Risks
*BK1803095089 Bangkok NAEON NA in Thai
15 Mar 89 p 5*

[Editorial: "A Lesson About Laos"]

[Text] Thai-Lao relations have rapidly improved over a short time after the government of General Chatchai Chunhawan took over. A major contribution to this was the efforts made by Army Commander in Chief General Chawalit Yongchayut to mend the feud in the wake of the battle at Ban Romklao. This was, later on, given an impetus by the new shift in foreign policy introduced by the prime minister's team of advisers who advocate that we should open our door wider for the Indochinese countries.

As a result, Thai businessmen and foreign companies started going to Laos to explore investment possibilities there. Those investors, although they realize that the Lao people have low purchasing power, still want to see with their own eyes as opportunities are opened to them. They would be ready to invest in Laos if that means laying a groundwork for their future enterprises. This is because a right to investment in Laos would allow them to advance into Cambodia and Vietnam.

Thai and international businessmen realize that the social situation and code of conduct in Laos are lower than the international standard. The system and practice used in Laos are arbitrary. They can be changed anytime Laos wants. New rules and regulations can be promulgated anytime by Lao leaders to serve Laos' interests. When Laos says "no conditions" it only means that there are all kinds of conditions which make agreements unworkable.

In addition to having a system of trade which does not follow the international norm, Laos has also the problem of security threatening those wanting to do business in that country. The abduction of a Japanese businessman in the heart of Vientiane is a good example of the poor security standard in Laos. This can happen to anybody. The culprits could be the Lao people, Lao refugees, or international gangsters who took advantage of loopholes in Laos to undermine their trade competitors.

We therefore would like to caution Thai businessmen who have their eyes set on Laos as the next goldmine to realize that the situation in Vientiane is still unsafe. The

Thai Government should assign agencies concerned to give correct information to the people. While pursuing its policy of improving relations with Indochina and achieving peace for the region, the government must not forget to supply businessmen and investors with facts and information they need for their own security.

Phong Sarasin Criticizes Chatchai Advisers
*BK2003010989 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Mar 89 p 5*

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin yesterday lashed out at Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's advisers, saying they are "overzealous kids" bent on showing off.

Phong is so far the most senior Cabinet member to have spoken out against the advisory team, whose active role in foreign affairs recently pitted Chatchai against the Foreign Ministry.

"It seems that they don't understand the role of advisers. They seem to want to have a say in everything," Phong said.

Phong, who is deputy leader of the Social Action Party (SAP), said the advisers are "creating a mess."

He said his criticism was meant to be a "reprimand" for the advisers.

"I know they are still young. All kids are like that—wanting to show off. I want to make them understand what their real duty is. They are advisers, not implementors," Phong said.

Phong cited the visit to the United States of Surakiat Sathianthai, one of Chatchai's advisers, for the inauguration of President George Bush.

Surakiat attended the function as Chatchai's personal representative and reportedly held informal discussions with U.S. officials on Thai-U.S. trade relations.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila is the leader of SAP and was irked by the fact that some of the advisers by-passed the foreign Ministry in foreign affairs, especially on matters relating to Indochina policy.

In responding to a question about Surakiat's request to see him, Phong said the adviser is welcome.

"I will tell him this when we meet, 'Surakiat, you are still young. You have good intention, but you aren't supposed to do what you're doing—running around and messing things up,'" he said.

Phong said the Commerce and Foreign Ministries felt "uneasy" about the advisers' role. He said Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan, also a member of SAP, always complained about the "interference".

Sitthi was most disturbed by the advisers, but he had never expressed his feeling, Phong said.

The conflict between the Government House and the Foreign Ministry flared up early this month when Chatchai met President Bush in Tokyo and presented him an aide memoire urging a reassessment of the Thai-U.S. relations.

Sitthi told reporters then that he had not been consulted over the aide memoire which was understood to be the work of Chatchai's advisers.

Chatchai and Sitthi subsequently met for "heart-to-heart" talks to defuse the tension.

Phong admitted that the advisers were energetic and at times have useful ideas. "Sometimes when we get stuck, it's good to have others help us think. But just think, don't do it," he said.

Phong said Chatchai might also be feeling that the advisory team "has gone too far", but was reluctant to speak out because one of the advisers, Kraisak Chunhawan, is his own son.

"If it was not for Kraisak, the prime minister would certainly have taken some tough action. But the prime minister has only one son, who never cooperated with him in the past," Phong said.

He added that Chatchai never asked the advisers to carry out policies, but the aides are just "overzealous".

Kraisak is known to have frequently criticized his father in the past but since he was made his personal adviser the two appear to have been getting along well.

Chatchai Reacts to Phong Comment

*BK210313189 Bangkok THE NATION in English
21 Mar 89 Afternoon Edition p 2*

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said this morning he did not mind Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin reprimanding his young policy advisers.

"It's an old story," said Chatchai, referring to Phong's published comments that the young advisers allegedly exceeded their line of responsibility by stealing the show from permanent officials. He said the young officials should be told to provide only advice to the prime minister and not act as if they are running ministries.

But the premier shrugged off Phong's comments. "No problem," he said, although he did not look very happy while answering questions on the matter.

The premier said that his advisers were young people and can be reprimanded by anybody.

"All (Phong and the advisers) know each other well," Chatchai said.

Phong reportedly received complaints from the Commerce Ministry headed by Subin Pinkhayen, a Social Action MP [member of parliament]. According to Subin, the PM's [Prime Minister's] advisers tapered [as published] with the permanent officials' handling of the dispute with the U.S. over intellectual property rights protection in Thailand.

The policy advisers also had problems with the Foreign Ministry led by SAP [Social Action Party] leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila.

SAP Backs Criticism of Advisers

*BK2103013189 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Mar 89 pp 1, 3*

[Excerpt] The controversy over the role played by the premier's personal advisers spilled across party lines yesterday as Social Action Party [SAP] members threw their support behind Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin who accused the advisers of interfering in the party's government work.

Some SAP members even said they were ready for a clash if the advisers refused to stop interfering in the work of ministries given to the party.

The SAP's reaction came after the advisers issued a statement through deputy government spokesman Likhit Hongladarom (Chat Thai) denying Mr Phong's allegations. They insisted they were performing their duties with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's approval.

General Chatchai, the Chat Thai leader, spoke out in defence of his advisers yesterday while SAP leader Sitthi Sawetsila refused to comment on the issue.

It was the first time since the formation of the current coalition government that the SAP publicly confronted Chat Thai over the role of Gen Chatchai's advisers and the conduct of foreign policy.

Talking to reporters on Friday, Mr Phong branded the premier's personal advisers as "over-zealous kids" and accused them of overstepping their line of responsibility and of trying to run the ministries themselves.

Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayen (SAP) said last night that Mr Phong's remarks against the advisers reflected what has long been "in the hearts" of all SAP members.

"We consider Mr Phong our hero for this job," said Mr Subin, who usually is silent on the role of the premier's advisers.

Mr Subin said several diplomats had spoken to him in support of Mr Phong's remarks about the advisers.

He added that it was very rare for Mr Phong to speak out against or get angry with anybody.

Mr Subin made his comments at a wedding reception for ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi's daughter at the Oriental Hotel. Gen Chatchai, Cabinet ministers and other top officials attended the event.

Throwing his support behind Mr Phong, SAP deputy leader Prayut Siriphanit said all SAP members had been uneasy with the way the advisers conducted themselves.

"The advisers should know their role well. I am also a Prime Minister's adviser and I've never overstepped my duty.

"They should know that they have no power and should not cause problems," said the Maha Sarakham MP [member of parliament], who is the premier's political adviser.

"What the Deputy Prime Minister (Phong) has said will not end just that. This shows that SAP is ready to go for a break with the advisers," he said.

SAP deputy government spokesman Chanchai Chairungruang said Mr Phong's remarks against the advisers were made "out of a political instinct" which showed "we SAP members can't stand it any more."

"I want to tell (the advisers) we are ready for a clash if it isn't stopped here," Mr Chanchai said.

He challenged the advisers to quit their jobs and run in an election to prove their popularity and stop acting like a shadow behind the Government.

Earlier in the day, Mr Likhit, speaking on behalf of the advisers, said in response to Mr Phong's criticism: "The Deputy Prime Minister should have discussed the problem directly with the Prime Minister so that the Prime Minister could pass the message to the advisers.

"He should not make the allegations through the mass media because we are in the same coalition," he said.

Mr Likhit, who met the other advisers at Phitsanulok House yesterday evening, said the team asked him to convey their appreciation of Mr Phong's remarks to Gen Chatchai.

But he said the advisers denied they had interfered with the ministries' work. [passage omitted]

Chatchai Urges End to 'Uproar'
BK2203023589 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Mar 89 pp 1-2

[Excerpts] Prime Minister [PM] Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday called for an end to the uproar between the Social Action [Party—SAP] ministers and his advisers who were told to cease all contacts with ministries.

The premier made the call at the weekly Cabinet meeting. But last night, he told his advisers at a social function to "continue working as usual", according to one of the advisers Surakiat Sathianthai.

A government spokesman quoted the premier as saying that he had cleared up the issue with Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin, who kicked off a new round of controversy last Friday by accusing the advisers of overstepping the line of their responsibility and trying to "steal the show" from the ministers.

The premier later got together with the advisers at Europa 89, an annual function for Europe academic institutes' alumni at the Dusit Thani Hotel and told them to continue working for him.

The premier spent about half an hour with the advisers, who had been instructed to attend the function earlier in the day.

PM's adviser Surakiat said the premier asked them about their news conference held at the Phitsanulok residence in the afternoon.

"The premier also told us not to worry about the political pressure. He assured us that our role will remain unchanged," Surakiat told THE NATION.

The premier was quoted as assuring the Cabinet earlier in the day that the advisers would only seek information from related ministries—and would not interfere with their work.

"The ministers can allow or deny them access to information. It all depends on you. But you can think for yourselves that if they do not have information, their advice could be inaccurate," the premier reportedly told the Cabinet. He said ministers can "use" the advisers to study any issue.

The premier said he had warned the advisers many times to "stay away" from Phong's international trade and economic cooperation policy committee.

Despite the uproar, Chatchai said that he still wants to listen to the young intellectuals' views.

"The past governments never made use of the young brains and I believe it is a good idea to know how they feel. I have often talked to university academics and I can sense that they appreciate my interest in their views. But this does not mean that I will accept everything they tell me," he said.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, the SAP leader, told the premier that all sides should now stop commenting on the issue—or else it could escalate into a serious conflict which would benefit nobody. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the premier's advisers yesterday vowed to suspend all contacts with various ministries and end their participation in the Thai-US trade negotiations to avoid antagonizing politicians and permanent officials.

At a news conference at the Phitsanulok residence, the advisers also made public official documents in an attempt to clear themselves of Social Action ministers' accusations that they had meddled with ministerial affairs.

Despite the "retreat," Phansak Winyarat, speaking as chairman of the policy advisory board, declared that the advisers will continue to pursue their fact-finding role and offer advice to the premier on various issues.

Bawonsak Uwanno, another adviser, said the documents were proof that the advisers had been invited by permanent officials to attend a series of international negotiations. For talks with foreign dignitaries, he said, "we have been mostly invited by the foreign embassies and we sought prior permission from the premier every time to attend the talks," Bawonsak added. [passage omitted]

Bawonsak also denied that the advisers concluded a deal with Hun Sen, prime minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK), allowing the regime's troops to conduct hot pursuit across the Thai-Kampuchean border against Khmer resistance guerrillas. Commanders of Thai border forces reported that they had intercepted radio conversations between PRK troops on such a deal.

"It's not true. We confined our role to our advisory capacity and we never decided for the prime minister. We had to obtain the premier's consent in advance in every case," he said. [passage omitted]

Chawalit Defends Army Role in Rural Development
BK2203014189 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Acting Supreme Commander General Chawalit Yongchayut, defending the growing participation by the military in rural development, said yesterday soldiers are required by the Constitution to support national development and are equal to the challenge.

Chawalit said he made the point in a meeting with Interior Minister Praman Adireksan early last week to explain to the minister the reasons why the military is assuming an increasing role in national development.

He said he told Praman that the army-spearheaded Harippan Baru project (the New Hope Project) in the South and the Green Isan project for the Northeast differ in their objectives. While the former project has been geared towards bridging the gap between the local authorities and the Muslim villagers, the latter has been tailored to solve the chronic problem of water shortage and drought in the barren region, Chawalit said.

"The minister asked why I set up the development divisions, and I replied that if he did not want the military to play development role, then he should seek a constitutional amendment on the military's roles," said Chawalit, concurrently army commander in chief.

Chawalit said the Constitution stipulates that the military has two roles to play: defending the territorial sovereignty of the country and supporting national development.

"He asked me why I did not use engineering soldiers in supporting development and I answered that I had used them but it did not work because they had not been trained in development," Chawalit said.

Chawalit said the military harboured no ulterior motives in carrying out the development projects. "The only objective is to boost the standard of living of the underprivileged in the rural areas," he said.

Chawalit said the military is ready to assume the role. "Take me as an example, I am vice chairman of the Thai Military Bank's board of directors, board chairman of the country's biggest construction company, board chairman of two TV stations and about 180 radio stations. In this way, I can create anything in one day. If I want to do anything, then the whole nation will feel it," he said.

The military leader did not name the construction company.

Vietnam

MIA Talks With U.S. Delegation Begin 22 Mar
BK2203114289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1118 GMT
22 Mar 89

[Excerpt] Hanoi, March 22 (AFP) - A group of U.S. experts began three days of talks Wednesday with Hanoi officials on the problem of U.S. servicemen missing in action (MIA) since the Vietnam war, an official source said.

The U.S. group is led by Lieutenant Colonel Joe Harvey, commander of the U.S. Joint Casualty Resolution Center in Hawaii, the Vietnamese official said.

Lt. Col. Harvey is scheduled to hold a series of talks with Nguyen Can, deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's North American department who is charged with handling the MIA question, the source said.

The talks, set to end Friday, are aimed at summing up the progress made in four joint searches for the remains of MIA's and to discuss the next round of searches, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said recently.

The four earlier operations which began in October concerned 70 MIA's classified by Washington as priority cases because the U.S. servicemen had gone missing in circumstances which suggested they might have been captured by Vietnam.

Vietnam has handed over the remains of 160 presumed MIA's since U.S. General John Vessey visited Hanoi in August 1987 as the envoy of then President Ronald Reagan to initiate the recent series of joint MIA searches. [passage omitted]

PRK's Hun Sen Said To Visit Hanoi Over Weekend
*BK2203102089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0955 GMT
22 Mar 89*

[Excerpt] Hanoi, March 22 (AFP) - Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen paid a short visit here at the weekend to discuss the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from his country, diplomats said Wednesday.

The diplomats said Mr. Hun Sen visited here Sunday and had called on Hanoi to pull all its troops out of Cambodia by the end of the year.

The Foreign Ministry said it had no knowledge of such a visit.

Hanoi has said it would complete the withdrawal by the end of September if a peace agreement is reached between Phnom Penh and the tripartite Cambodian resistance movement, and that in any case it will withdraw all its soldiers from Cambodia by the end of 1990.

It says there are some 50,000 Vietnamese troops in the country, though latest Western estimates put the figure at 60,000 to 70,000. [passage omitted]

Commentary Says Khmer Rouge 'Disintegrating'
*BK2103134089 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 21 Mar 89*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Foreign sources said that at present the Khmer Rouge have not a foothold in Kampuchea and their morale has been declining. They even said that the Kampuchean people now have gained the initiative in the combat against the Khmer Rouge. In this connection, our radio has this comment:

The Khmer Rouge are now disintegrating and their morale is declining. They no longer believe in their ringleaders. In face of the punishment by the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Khmer Rouge now can only operate in small groups and by fits and starts. Their moves to set up zones under their control in the areas where Vietnamese Army volunteers withdrew

late last year no longer exist. They even failed to materialize their threat to occupy a district town or to sabotage the recent celebrations for the national day of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The Thai newspaper THE NATION said that at present leaders of the Khmer Rouge only paid attention to smuggling precious wood and marble while ignoring the fight. This caused indignation among the Khmer Rouge troops. The number of deserted troops has been rising, as well the head of a brigade also fled. For this reason, the British newspaper THE INDEPENDENT affirmed that the story that the Khmer Rouge is invincible is nothing but a myth. They are now being bettered militarily and diplomatically. That is what the Khmer Rouge is like. Foreign observers also affirmed that the Khmer Rouge would not have a foothold in Kampuchea following the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers. THE INDEPENDENT again in its 5 February issue said: Pol Pot and his associates could never regain power in Kampuchea. Two out of the three opposing parties in Kampuchea share this view with THE INDEPENDENT.

For their part, the Kampuchean people affirmed that the Khmer Rouge can never gain their support. Moreover, they took initiative to wipe out the Khmer Rouge. Despite all this, the Khmer Rouge still held on to its desire to return to power in Kampuchea and commit another genocide in the country. The deserted Khmer Rouge troops disclosed that in the last 6 months the Khmer Rouge forced 16,000 Kampuchean refugees in the camps on the Thai soil to stage a comeback to Kampuchea in order to serve their attempt. More dangerous still is the Khmer Rouge's insistence on more U.S. military aid. Public opinion especially in the United States has protested against such acts of the Khmer Rouge and demanded that the Bush administration not provide weapons to them. Public opinion held that this arms supply is a dangerous act like lending a hand to the Khmer Rouge to achieve their genocidal aim. For all this, people of conscience the world over deem it their primary task to struggle for the prevention of the return to power in Kampuchea by the Khmer Rouge and the prevention of another genocide in Kampuchea.

Mass Movement Planned To Curb Crime, Social Vices
*BK2003085789 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 20 Mar 89*

[Text] The Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Central Committee recently met in Hanoi with the front's member organizations and functional organs, internal affairs committees, people's organs of controls, people's courts, and the Ministries of Interior, Justice, Culture, Information, Labor, and War Invalids and Social Welfare to jointly organize a mass movement to prevent and control crime, curb social vices, restore social order and discipline, build a new lifestyle, and develop the people's role of self-management in residential areas. Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the VFF Central Committee Presidium, presided over the conference.

The conference heard a report presented by a representative of the public security sector on the situation regarding political security and social order in the past 2 years, which pointed out:

With the cooperation and assistance of the various sectors, mass organizations, and people in residential areas, the Public Security Forces throughout the country have made efforts to contribute to curb an increase in the incidence of crime. Many social vices and negative phenomena have been checked. However, due to various reasons, the crime situation has continued to develop in a complicated and serious manner. In 1987-88, a total of 120,558 crimes were committed nationwide, causing in death or injury to many people and resulting in property damage valued at billions of dong. Other social vices such as gambling, superstitious practices, drug addiction, prostitution, and so forth have developed at an alarming rate. Faced with this situation, the entire society has the great responsibility to struggle for the prevention and control of crime and other social vices. Worthy of note is that youths and teenagers account for more than 80 percent of the perpetrators of these crimes and other social vices. This phenomenon raises the responsibility of the Youth Union, other mass organizations, and the entire society toward educating the young generations.

The VFF Central Committee will coordinate with functional sectors—such as the [Ministries of] Interior, War Invalids and Social Welfare, Culture, Information, and the courts, organs of control, and other sectors—in working out plans and measures for consideration and ratification by the state, which are aimed at realizing dictatorship while ensuring democracy in social management, effectively protecting the people's interests, controlling crimes, and curbing social vices.

Symposium on Space Research Held in Hanoi
*BK2003080889 Hanoi VNA in English 0733 GMT
 20 Mar 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 20—A two-day symposium on the research and peaceful use of the outer space was organized here on Mar. 17-18 by the Vietnam Space Research Committee.

It was reported at the symposium that since its founding the committee has completed 54 research projects in the areas of cartography, meteorology and hydrology, telecommunications, natural resources and environmental surveys. Most worthy of note is the study and use of weather photos particularly in storm forecasts.

Organizers of Illegal Departures Punished by Court
*BK2203081289 Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT
 22 Mar 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA 22 March—The People's Supreme Court has brought to trial Do Hoang Tru, former deputy director of the security service in Haiphong city, and his associates guilty of organizing illegal departures to foreign countries and trading in commodities under state monopoly.

From 1975-83, Do Hoang Tru and his clique three times arranged illegal shipments abroad of 260 persons from Ho Chi Minh City via Haiphong. Through bribery and illicit trading, Tru and his collaborators raked hundreds of taels of gold of which 139 taels were pocketed by Tru personally.

The court sentenced Do Hoang Tru to life imprisonment. The other accused received prison terms ranging from two to 10 years.

VPA Radio Program Marks 30th Anniversary
*BK1903033589 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
 2300 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] In Hanoi on 16 March, the People's Army radio program held a ceremony to mark its 30th founding anniversary; 16 March 1959-16 March 1989. Attending the function were Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee and head of the Political General Department; and representatives of the Ministry of Information, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, the Voice of Vietnam, agencies of the Ministry of National Defense, and personnel of the People's Army radio program.

During the past 30 years, the People's Army radio program has consistently strengthened its maturity and developed its tasks, thereby contributing to motivating the entire Army and people to triumphantly fulfill the national liberation cause, defend the fatherland, and reconstruct the nation.

On behalf of the Military Commission of the CPV Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, Comrade Nguyen Quyet commended cadres and personnel of the People's Army radio program for their efforts and achievements. He expressed the hope that editors and correspondents will continue to enhance their skills and consistently improve the program to satisfactorily meet requirements of the Army in the current renovation stage.

Radio Reviews Mar 1989 Issue of Army Journal
*BK1403063989 Hanoi Domestic Service
 in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 12 Mar 89*

[Summary] The March 1989 issue of TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN begins with an article entitled "From the Provincial and Municipal Defense Zone Exercises for 1988: Some Initial Experiences and Problems That Need to be Solved" by Senior Lieutenant General Doan Khue. In 1989, as planned by the General Staff, many provinces will continue to conduct defense zone exercises. This article is very necessary for the various localities to carry out this task satisfactorily; and it also lays the groundwork for a recapitulation of this work at the end of this year. Next comes Colonel Ngo Ta's article under the title "Local Rear Service and Defense Zones."

Marking the 30th founding anniversary of the Border Defense Forces 3 March, the journal features an article entitled "Considering the People as Roots, the Border Defense Forces Satisfactorily Maintain Border Security" by Lieutenant General Dinh Van Tuy.

Focusing on the issue of military organization, the journal features in its "Study" section two articles, "Military Organization and Weapons and Technical Equipment" by Colonel Le Thai and "Army Organization and War-time Requirements" by Colonel Do Nguyen Trinh.

Recently, the Combat Department of the General Staff organized a scientific seminar on battle deployments of the people's war. The journal introduces in this issue two reports presented at the said seminar by Major General Vu Khac Thong of the High-Level Military Academy and Colonel Vuong Dang Giang of the Military Science Department.

Appearing in the "Exchange of Opinions on Effectiveness of Party Work and Political Work in the Army" section of the journal are the views by Lieutenant General Le Xuan Luu of the Politico-Military Institute and Lieutenant General Le Linh Hoc of the High-Level Military Academy.

In the "Exchange of Experience in Building the Reserve Force" section, the journal introduces some experiences of the Capital Military Region and the 7th Military Region in two articles by Lieutenant General Lu Giang and Colonel Quach Thu Tu respectively.

Featured in the "Foreign Military Documents" section is an article entitled "National Defense Budget Trends of the United States and Some Other Countries in the World" by Tran Dinh.

The journal's "Renovate Theoretical Thinking about Documentary Information" section contains an article entitled "Military Balance and Strategies in the Asia-Pacific Region."

Nguyen Quyet Attends Military Medical Ceremony
*BK1303121589 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG
TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Dec 88 pp 21-30*

[Summary] "On the morning of 10 March, the Military Medical Institute held a solemn ceremony to mark its 40th founding anniversary and to receive the Independence Order, first class, awarded by the Council of State.

"Attending the ceremony were Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State, and director of the General Political Department; the comrade leaders of the Ha Son Binh provincial party committee and people's committee; and representatives from many central-level organs and sectors, schools, sister establishments, and Army and nonmilitary units that have cooperated with the institute in training physicians

and developing medical work." Also present were delegates of military medical services from the Soviet Union, the GDR, Cuba, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

"Doctor and Professor Major General Le The Trung, director of the Military Medical Institute, read a report highlighting the growth of the institute during the past 40 years." From a mid-level military medical school established during the resistance against the French colonialists, the Military Medical Institute has now become a training center for military medical cadres and a military medical research center of our country.

"Over the past 40 years, the institute has trained 15,000 doctors, pharmacists, and post-graduate medical specialists. This figure includes more than 300 military medical cadres for the two Armies of fraternal Laos and Cambodia.

"After pinning the Independence, Order first class, to the institute's determined-to-win military banner on behalf of the Council of State, the party Central Committee Military Commission, and the Ministry of National Defense, Senior Lt Gen Nguyen Quyet warmly commended the cadres, teachers, students, workers, personnel, and combatants of the institute for their great achievements during 40 years of construction and growth."

New Thinking on Socialism Education in Army
*BK1303121589 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG
TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Dec 88 pp 21-30*

[Article by Major General Tran Xuan Truong: "New Thinking on Socialism and Renovation of the Content of Socialist Education in the Army"]

[Text] Socialist education is closely connected with our party's knowledge about socialism and the socialist ideal and objective, which are usually manifested by a certain model of a future socioeconomic state; about the path leading to that objective, which is the system of party's guidelines and policies on the socialist revolution; and about new socialist men who have the politico-ethical qualities as hosts of the social evolutionary process.

Since the entire country became independent and unified in order to advance toward socialism, we have encountered many difficulties in the development of socialist revolution in our country. Although there are many causes, the important one is our backwardness on the theoretical and ideological front. Along with the general trends in world socialism toward renovating thinking, generally reviewing realities, and recognizing oneself, our party has also realized that over the past many years much of our knowledge about socialism was not correct.

Our theoretical thinking on socialism and the transitional period is in a developmental stage of revolutionary nature. Our party is generally reviewing the lessons on guidelines and formulating a program for socialist

construction in the transitional period for presentation at the seventh nationwide party congress. Many requirements and contents of social life and human development are being examined and put forth under new light ... All these call for vigorous renovation in the scope of our socialist troop education. Our sixth party congress directed: "Each of us from leaders to ordinary party members, no matter in what area of operation, should reexamine their knowledge, promptly receive new opinions, and resolutely get rid of erroneous viewpoints." (Footnote 1) (CPV document on Sixth Nationwide Party Congress, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi 1987, pages 125-126)

Our party members, people, and troops have a unified scope of socialist education because the Army, part of the people, and the state are placed under the absolute leadership of the party; the class nature of the Army is the nature of the working class and also the character, politics, ideology and organization of the party, which are reflected in all military organizations. Evidently, this unity in the scope of socialist education not only does not get rid of differences but also calls for some definite differences in various objectives. As a result of characteristics in terms of duty and organization, we might emphasize this or that aspect in the contents of our socialist troop education. The important thing is that we should see beforehand that renovation of theoretical thinking on socialism, especially economic thinking and the development of socialist construction realities during the transitional period in our country, will generate different effects on the domains of economic construction and national defense consolidation, and will pose questions—not always similar ones—about socialist education in society and the Army.

The socialist economic model that we have long conceived and taught to our people and troops has many incorrect factors. This is a socialism of centralism, bureaucratism, and subsidization, which heavily bears on subjective voluntarism from the superstructure to the infrastructure. This causes the economy to deviate from its original law. Today's realities of socialist construction in the world as well as in our country allow for and lead to the knowledge of a new model and the correction of many previous errors. Although the process of revision has just started, many things still remain unclear and call for further research and experimentation; but, in general, some fundamental traits have begun to appear.

Socialism takes a more elaborate form of socioeconomic development than capitalism and is a negation of capitalism itself. Nevertheless, so far there has been a misunderstanding concerning those things that are the genuine components of capitalism and other factors that emerged long before from social production and have later been used and developed by capitalism, as is the case with the commodity-based economy. Nowadays, we still believe that the socialist economy is based on the collective ownership of the means of production and yields high social production output, and that the course

of its development is systematic and aimed at meeting the material and spiritual needs of the laboring people and their overall development. Nonetheless, the socialist economy bears all the characteristics of a highly developed and very dynamic commodity-based economy in which systemization, instead of denying the existence of the market and goods-money relations, maintains a close connection with them; and the state combines its centralized management efforts with attempts to create more conditions for production installations to exercise business autonomy and bring into full play their resourcefulness. Under this economic system, material gains and economic incentives play a very important role in economic development. Differing economic interests have taken shape and developed in a way both contradictory and harmonious, thus stimulating mutual growth. Inevitably, such an economy requires more dynamic management and increasingly complicated management measures. While coordinating various educational, administrative, and economic measures (with each of them having its own indispensable role), we must pay appropriate attention to economic measures if natural economic growth is to be achieved through voluntary stimulation by men in accordance with the law of evolution. (In the new socialist economic concepts, there are many other factors, of which only certain points are cited here.)

In our country, we need new concepts not only about socialist models but also about the period of transition—the various stages required to complete building these models. To replace those simplistic and subjective concepts once predominant in theory and practice and in socialist reform and construction in our country, today we must adopt more appropriate and scientific concepts in order to ensure practical leadership. It is clear that the transition in our country will inevitably occupy a much longer period of time in history as compared with that in other countries. The process of industrialization also has many aspects to be reconceived. Production relations have experienced unprecedented transformations. It is no good for us to hastily do away with various economic components as we once conceived and did. Given the low production output, there is a need for production forces belonging to different economic components to continue to exist and develop at a time when new, more appropriate production forces are not available in society to replace them. To suit an economy made up of many components, we must have a social class structure made up of various strata. It will be a long before Vietnamese society has a homogeneous structure made up of two fundamental classes—the working class and peasantry, and the socialist intelligentsia.

The environment of the Vietnamese society during the transitional period added a number of new issues in the education of socialism in the AY. For quite a long time we have taught our officers and combatants that they must hate all forms of exploitation and that socialism will eliminate the last system of exploitation of man by man in history as well as private ownership in order to

promote the forms of production organization based on associated and cooperative labor. However, after a long period of time, not only individual labor but also capitalist business still exist and are protected by the law, and to some extent are respected, encouraged, and recognized as a social asset. All economic components that carried out business in a correct direction and in accordance with the law and those that scored economic results and produced good quality products for society are welcomed and treated equally in all aspects. Capability in technical and business management, including bourgeois, must be considered as a source of intellect that should be used, popularized, and seriously studied. Once we recognize the role of private, capitalist economy and its management and business activities, then we must come to accept that the bourgeois class will have a higher income and a better standard of living than others in society.

In this special condition of the transitional period in Vietnam, analyzed viewpoints on social classes are very necessary for the ideological and organizational work of our Army. The social classes and strata classified in accordance with their economic life, political attitude, and psychology and education ... do exist in our society at present. In providing political and ideological education to the Army, we must realize the possible influences of different social environments on each group of military personnel in order to have appropriate education orientation, content, and methods suitable to each target group. Life in the city is different from that in the rural areas; workers in localities are different from city dwellers, traders, and bourgeois; and even workers and peasants have different classes among themselves. However, different viewpoints on socialism and on socialist economy—which have been initially renovated recently—do not enable us to have a relatively systematic social science research and study project to obtain reliable information and conclusions on the present differentiated situation of the social class and strata in our society in order to use it as a base for enhancing the quality and efficacy of party building and political tasks in the Army. However, we are able to realize the urgency of such issues as labor and exploitation, and collectives and individuals.

On the issue of attitudes toward labor and exploitation, we must firmly grasp the question of education on fundamental stands against human exploitation. Only by positively resolving this question can we have an ideological basis on which to continually build the socialist ideal, criticize and eliminate the phenomena of vagueness about the nature of capitalism and socialism and the fundamental principle of socialism, which is the principle of benefits according to labor; and criticize all that is unclear in the income and benefits of some of our cadres, and all phases of exploitation including the exploitation of combatants' labor. On this basis, we should conduct education on flexible attitudes and strategy, and temporarily accept exploitation in the interest of the development of production forces under the current realistic conditions, which is also in the interest of socialism.

During the stage of national democratic revolution, we already succeeded in combining education on stands against oppression and exploitation with education on the gradual struggling strategy to limit and reach a new process leading to the abolition of a landlords' economy and class. We should develop and apply this experience to the present revolutionary stage, in a much more complicated and multifarious class struggle. Such a class struggle clearly requires our cadres and combatants to have a much higher level of socialist awareness in all fields: scientific theory, lines, policies, psychology, ethics, and so forth.

In the past years, socialist ethical education has focused on building collectivist concepts and criticizing all facets of individualism. This is totally correct. Nevertheless, we should reconsider the contents of building collectivism and criticizing individualism in conformity with the current developmental law of economy, and we should overcome superficial and one-sided manifestations.

First of all, we should restudy the viewpoints of the scientific socialism founders—Marx and Engels—in the party's Communist Manifesto: "The free development of the individual is a precondition for the free development of society." As a person who paid constant attention to the education of all party members, people, and troops on collectivism and who relentlessly struggled against individualism, President Ho Chi Minh always clearly distinguished individualism from legitimate individual interests in socialism. He wrote: "Struggling against individualism is not trampling on individual interests."

Along with the renewal of thinking on socialism, one can see all the more clearly every day the objective existence of different economic interests under socialism—among which are the personal interests of workers—and the driving role of these interests in socioeconomic development, in which the individual interests play the direct driving role. Under socialism, the relations among these interests are not antagonistic. Even though contradictions still exist, they are basically unified and serve as conditions for one another. Good socioeconomic leadership and management mainly means combining these interests together: societal, collective, and personal interests into a common driving force to promote the advancement of man as well as the entire society. Our sixth nationwide party congress indicated: "The economy must be managed mainly by economic methods with a driving force that is the harmonious combination of collective and workers' personal interests".

The combination of these interests also means the combination of economic, political, and social driving forces into an overall driving force for social development. Economic objectives and economic gains are the common denominator of all these interests. This combination of interests is proof of the realistic development of the socialist production relations. Nevertheless, as far as each individual laborer is concerned, only individual interests act as a direct economic driving force, whereas

social interests are just socio-political driving forces. It is necessary for personnel in charge of political indoctrination to make everyone understand that there is uniformity of interests in a socialist society, that individual and social interests are mutually dependent and closely interrelated, and that it is everybody's duty to work toward meeting social, collective, and individual interests. According to socialist ethical norms, it is morally acceptable for all individuals to care for their own interests. At the same time, each person must increasingly heighten the sense of his duty as a citizen, must give constant consideration to social interests and social development, and must realize ever more profoundly that individual interests are part and parcel of and depend upon collective interests.

Not only does socialism take into consideration individual interests, but it also gives due importance to the overall development of individuals. The reason is because socialism is the most genuine and most highly developed form of humanitarianism in history, which can hold high the banner of human rights and lay bare the fallaciousness and deceitfulness of the banner of human rights raised by capitalism, especially by the U.S. Administration at present. Contrary to some people's thinking and actions, socialist collectivism does not mean equal efforts to develop people's personality, character, strong points, talents.... On the contrary, socialist collectivism is a harmonious combination of the development of people and the society, considering the development of one element as a condition for the development of the other element. By its nature, the socialist revolution undertakes the task of completely liberating all individuals, the laboring people, the exploited nations, and mankind as a whole.

The current process of socialist renovation imperatively requires that we carry out renovation in the domain of superstructure to truly demonstrate the superiority of socialist democracy over the bourgeois parliamentary regime. This is a necessity of significantly pressing importance to our country—a country which, in fact, still has to learn or train itself more in the task of fostering democracy and establishing the legal system so as to make every person clearly understand his own rights and the rights of others. Since we are advancing to socialism in the domain of economic development from a country with pre-bourgeois small-scale production, we also have to advance to socialism concerning superstructure from a feudal and colonial system of dictatorship without going through any historical stage of bourgeois democratic development. In the national democratic revolution, we have begun to achieve revolutionary democracy and individual liberation and as a result have been able to launch a revolutionary movement and score historic achievements. However, this revolution is still not capable of smashing or completely overcoming all feudal, patriarchal traditions. For this reason, the socialist revolution is now assuming the heavy responsibility of carrying out many tasks that should have been fulfilled by the democratic revolution. If we fail to

perform these tasks, we will not be able to create political and social driving powers, and this would make it difficult for the revolution in the economic domain to proceed in an advantageous manner.

Education in socialist democracy constitutes a burning issue in our society and also an important part of political and ideological indoctrination work in the Army at present. Despite the fact that the Army is a military organization that requires a very high degree of discipline, expanding democracy in every aspect of its everyday life is currently a fundamental and urgent need to improve its fighting strength. Democracy and discipline are not categories that reject each other, rather, they create conditions for each other. In the Army, democracy must be manifested in all domains of activity. Meanwhile, democracy must be preserved along with discipline; military discipline must be considered as iron discipline, and orders must be executed in an absolutely strict manner. Democratization in the Army represents an organic element of socialist democracy and the application of that democracy to the conditions of a military organization. The standardization of organizational and operational activities is a characteristic of the military organization and one of the sources of its strength. People can easily get the impression that this process of standardization would smooth away differences among individuals. In fact, the strength of a regular army lies in a high degree of unanimity—unanimity in both organization and action—as well as in its discipline and democratic activities. We should not consider members of the armed forces as parts of a machine that have uniformly been designed to operate in a mechanical way. They are men of separate dignity and individuality, of different aptitudes and foibles, and of different inner feelings and different spiritual and sentimental lives. For this reason, in the art of carrying out political and ideological work for the development and education of man, we must attach special importance to different methods of approach to contents and forms that are suitable to every person in order to arouse the consciousness of all cadres and combatants and develop and muster their intellect. This is democracy and also the foundation of strict discipline.

Moreover, like other fields of activity (scientific, technical, managerial, literary, artistic, etc.), the military field also needs various "stars" to appear on the foundation of collective strength. More than ever before, the contemporary Vietnamese military art—the art that advocates "using the weak to fight the strong" and "using the few to fight the many"—is now in need of numerous outstanding leaders and commanders, combatants with special talents in combat and noncombat activities, and those who with creative thinking and actions have the courage to go beyond ordinary practices to attain highest results.

Education on socialist culture and life-style also poses new problems to be settled.

With the economy still made up of many components and with new concepts about economic, political, and social structures, it is certain that a diverse culture will continue to persist with bourgeois thinking and bourgeois culture very likely to spread tremendously in society. This situation requires us to intensify and renovate the teaching of socialist culture and life-style in the armed forces. While doing away with erroneous prejudices about what we formerly called "bourgeois culture," we must guard against and overcome genuine bourgeois culture. In such an economic and class-related situation, the infiltration of psychological ideas and social practices will certainly have a constant and heavy impact on our cadres and combatants. In addition, it is necessary to take into account the breeding ground of capitalism in the country, which has constantly received political and ideological support from the capitalist world and from international reactionaries through their war of sabotage. Faced with a more complicated social situation, the teaching of a sense of judgement and socialist mentality must be carried out in a more profound and adequate fashion, while trying to prevent this kind of teaching from becoming monotonous and inflexible. We must promote liberal creation of literary and artistic works, constantly improve the masses' aesthetical tastes, and make cadres and combatants become firm in the socialist ideal and steady on the political and ideological front, to effectively overcome the influence of the bourgeois life-style, to discernibly appreciate the value of genuine arts, and to distinguish the limit between the two ways of life—one advocating living with a wholesome and faithful ideal, earning a living with one own's labor, having a sense of respect and care for public property, and caring for the interests of the collective and the country; while the other upholding a materialistic, dishonest, selfish, and parasitic life-style that chases after money and cheap pleasures, thus lapsing into debauchery and deviation.

As a part of the people and organically linked with social life, cadres and combatants in our armed forces must be taught about socialism and about the two strategic tasks—building and defending socialism. It is necessary to pay more attention to the national defense task, trying to practically turn the armed forces into a school and a principal environment to steel and prepare youths for the defense of the fatherland whenever the need arises.

In educating troops on the national defense duty, the first thing we must do is to intensively educate them on a high sense of revolutionary vigilance and a spirit of permanent combat preparedness. Socialism is now upholding the banner of peace higher than ever before to spare mankind from a nuclear holocaust, and the logic in the banner of peace must necessarily be the struggle to win a victory for the trend of detente, settle all conflicts in the world through political means, carry out disarmament step by step, and establish a system of international and regional security and cooperation. This is also an indispensable part of the renewal of thinking on socialism. It is under these very conditions that we must intensively educate the people, especially the armed

forces' members, more than ever before on the tasks of combat readiness and combat to defend the revolutionary gains. Our banner of peace does not ostracize the viewpoint of revolutionary violence, since it is the banner of socialist peace of Marxism-Leninism and not bourgeois and petty bourgeois pacifism.

By analyzing and comparing the contents of socialist education on the two strategic tasks of national construction and defense, we see that they are basically unified. However, there are also some differences between the two evolutionary courses of the socialist revolution: the construction course in peace and the combat course in war. In war and combat, the relation of demands, interests, motives, and behavior basically change as compared to those in peacetime construction. Although individual interests always exist, they can no longer play the role of a direct driving force as they do in production. Faced with a threat to the survival of the country and the regime, the driving force that involves and governs the actions of people at this juncture must be political and spiritual. Socialist awareness in war is ardent patriotism closely linked to the love of the socialist regime, high sense of responsibility and duty of each person toward the fatherland, stalwart combat spirit, and self-denial for national salvation. Such socialist awareness must be instilled in the people, especially the armed forces, during peacetime.

Our party advocates the policy of balancing the education of the people and troops on the two strategic tasks along the guideline for "all the people to build and defend the Fatherland" and "all the troops to defend and build the country." Nevertheless, in a society where the building battlefield is the foremost one, the overall social atmosphere is of course the atmosphere of peaceful labor. Meanwhile, in the Army, the main activity is to stand combat-ready to defend the country. This by the same token means a definite division between the civilian and military environments, even though they are basically unified. This division and difference intensifies to become all the more distinct with the renovation of economic thinking and the thorough knowledge in life about the viewpoints on a socialist economy of goods, in which material interests and economic levers play an increasingly important role every day.

When a young man joins the army, he is shifted from one environment to another. This process requires a positive, dynamic adaptation. Various aspects of his thinking and action, psychology and habits must be changed. Working in a military environment, a military man cannot take material and individual interests as a direct moving force for carrying out his duty as he does in economic activities; he does not have a chance to calculate economic interests deliberately since these interests basically do not exist; he should not do only things that bring interest to him and ignore those that bring him nothing.

Socialist education in the army is the continuation of socialist education in society with a developed level in accordance with new requirements. Education in the

army must continue and develop the political and spiritual quality and fine psychology that young people have acquired in socialist society and in productive labor before joining the army so that when they complete their military service they will become workers with better skills in society. Education in the army also requires a complete change in habits, thinking, and action; a temporary suspension of the psychological mechanism of civilian life, and the setting up of a new mechanism in military life.

In carrying out socialist education in the army, we must pay special attention to building a military environment in such a way that it can mix harmoniously with the social environment while maintaining its independent and unique nature. In combat training, we must strictly apply the principle of training to meet the requirements of a wartime situation by creating circumstances similar to those applicable during a war. We must broaden this principle to all aspects of the army building task, creating a military environment in which combatants are satisfactorily provided with political and ideological education and a solid psychology, thus creating abilities, customs, and habits meeting the requirements of wars to defend the fatherland in the future.

This education must also enable each military man to realize and train himself to meet these requirements. We must make each military man able to maintain his consciousness, stay alert, distinguish the differences between the social and military action mechanism, accept the necessity to advance toward changing the old psychological mechanism in order to gradually accept and adapt to the new mechanism. The fulfillment of these requirements is a basic, prior, and necessary condition to ensure the success of the education task because it will create a unanimity bearing the characteristics of a spontaneous agreement between a military agency and a new recruit on the meaning and nature of his military service in the army as well as of new training and fostering requirements.

We also deem it necessary to point to the fact that even though individual interests are not considered to be a direct driving force for efforts to make everyone aware of his duty toward the defense of the fatherland, this does not mean that due consideration has not been given to our cadres' and soldiers' needs, aspirations, and other

individual interests. The party, state, and military leaders at all echelons have incessantly cared for these needs and interests, and adopted proper measures for improving the material and spiritual life of members of the Armed Forces.

Regarding the contingent of officers whose military service is a lifetime career, it is even more important to see to it that socialist education be carried out vigorously, thoroughly, and systematically. Steps must be taken to help military officers possess a scientific outlook, firm belief in communism, high sense of duty, spirit of sacrifice and self-denial, and willingness to sacrifice everything, including their lives, in order to show men under their command how to outstandingly fulfill their appointed tasks under normal or combat circumstances. In addition to ideological motivation and indoctrination, it is necessary to set forth concrete policies and systems to reflect our party's, state's, and people's recognition of and encouragement for those who opt for a military career. This recognition must be reflected, first of all, in the spiritual domain. In this way, we can help prevent military career and pride in military service during peace time from moving down the ladder of social values, which is now undergoing changes and subjected to redefinition. It is necessary to couple these spiritual values with material rewards in such a way as to ensure that a military career will bring about better, or at least the same, material benefits offered by other good-paying professions in society. These material incentives will consolidate the image of a military career and help the latter regain its noble spiritual value.

Political and spiritual education of the Armed Forces in peacetime and wartime are two different stories. In peacetime, economic laws assume a key role in social life. Objectively speaking, like it or not, a military career is one of the different occupations in society that the laboring people can choose. This career is part of the socialist labor distribution system and its relations with other occupations must be taken into consideration, not only in terms of nature but quality as well (that is, one occupation is better than the other, or vice versa). In the past, the need to build a strong army capable of meeting high combat requirements called for appropriate policies and systems determining the material benefits for military officers. Given the current new concepts about socialism, this demand has become more urgent than ever before.

New Zealand

Foreign Minister To Visit PRC From 29 Mar

BK2203081089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0751 GMT
22 Mar 89

[Text] Wellington, March 22 (AFP)—China's interest in the South Pacific will be on the agenda when New Zealand's Foreign Minister Russell Marshall visits Beijing for the first time next week.

Mr Marshall, who begins an eight-day visit on March 29 at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, said Wednesday he would be briefing Mr Qian on recent developments in the South Pacific.

"China, over recent years, has developed a modest, constructive presence involving provision of development assistance to several island countries, and support for regional initiatives such as the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone and the (South Pacific) Forum stance on New Caledonia," he said.

"It will be appropriate also to welcome the recent announcement of movement towards the normalisation of relations between Indonesia and China, a very positive development in regional terms."

China is New Zealand's fifth largest export market, and its biggest customer for wool.

Mr Marshall said the two countries had built up "a very good, business-like and mutually advantageous bilateral relationship during the 16 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations."

Minister Boosts Tax Rates, Cuts Spending

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21 Mar 89

[Text] Wellington, March 21 (AFP)—The New Zealand Government raised taxes and cut spending by 700 million New Zealand dollars (\$430 million U.S.) in an economic package unveiled by Finance Minister David Caygill Tuesday.

Mr Caygill said company tax rates would rise from 28 percent to 33 percent from April 1 while a consumption tax on goods and services would be increased from 10 percent to 12.5 percent from July 1. He told Parliament that the government had acted to end speculation over taxation.

The spending reductions include putting a "cap" on the current defence budget and not funding departments for price changes and the higher goods and services tax in the forthcoming budget year. The government is expected to hand down its formal budget in early July.

The latest spending cuts followed a recent package and bring total reductions to one billion dollars (\$610 million U.S.).

As a sweetener, Mr Caygill reduced a tax on petrol and methanol by four cents a litre to 19 cents, a tax on diesel fuel by seven cents a litre to 16 cents and an excise duty on new imported cars from 15 percent to 7.5 percent.

Mr Caygill said the package would reduce the government's budget deficit to its target of one percent of gross domestic product or 700 million dollars (\$430 million U.S.) in the coming July 1 budget year.

He said that the moves were "a giant stride to a real budget surplus next year" and that the government's aim was to "create an environment to growth."

Mr Caygill restated the government's inflation target of less than two percent by the early 1990's. But he said that the impact of the measures would be a one-off increase of 1.7 percent in consumer prices in the coming year.

Market analysts said that the package would send down interest rates by three to four percentage points from current rates of around 15.5 percent on home and personal loans. It would also put downward pressure on the New Zealand dollar, currently at trading around 61 U.S. cents, they said.

Financial markets were "positive but quiet" in response to the statement, they said.

Papua New Guinea

Ethnic Violence Kills Youth in Port Moresby

BK2203054589 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 22 Mar 89

[Text] Papua New Guinea has again been hit with ethnic violence, this time in the capital, Port Moresby. Latest reports from the Pacific News Service, PACNEWS, say a youth was killed in the clashes. Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent, Sean Dorney, reports that what was to be a peace march through the suburbs of the city turned violent with fights breaking out between Papuans and Highlanders.

Car windscreens were smashed and children were chased out of school. Dorney says the violence follows the murder of a Papuan Catholic youth leader in the Port Moresby suburb of (Gareho) last week.

Meanwhile, on the strike-torn island of Bougainville in Papua New Guinea's North Solomons Province, things were reported quiet this morning. A reconnaissance group from the Papua New Guinea Defense Force was flown to the island today to prepare the way for a company of more than 120 soldiers ordered to the island by the national government in a decision made yesterday.

The soldiers will back up an already strong police force which had been boosted by reinforcements flown from the mainland over recent days.

The measures had been taken to counter violence between Bougainvilleans and workers from other parts of Papua New Guinea in which at least three people have been killed (and three) Bougainvilleans seriously wounded.

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